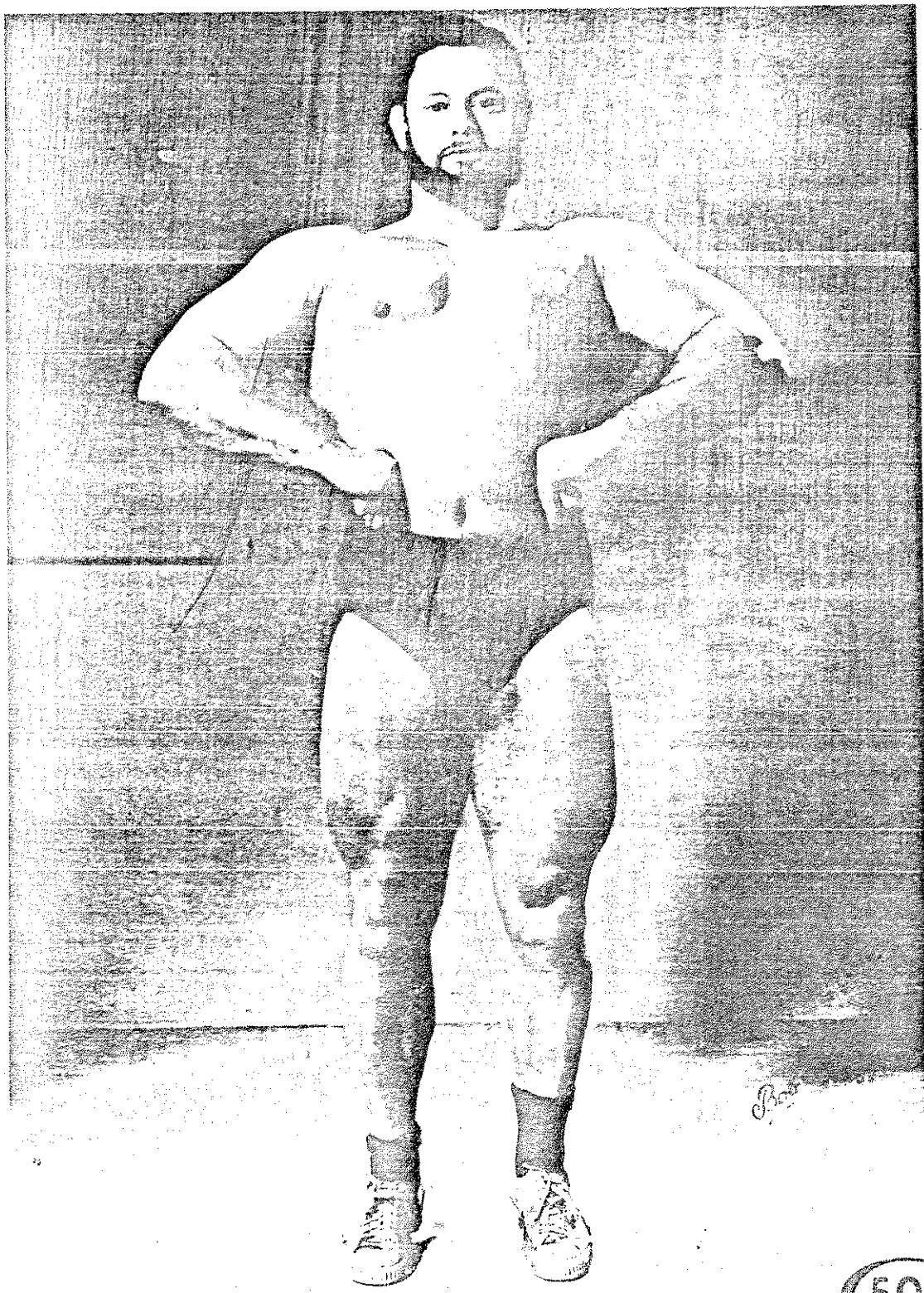
MATMANIA



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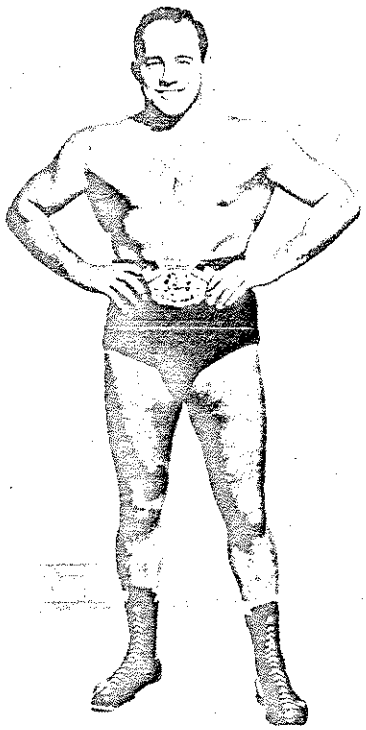

VERNE GAGNE

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PUBLISHER:

BURT RAY

Burt Ray of Matmania

U.S. & CANADIAN RESULTS

In each issue of MA TMANIA, we rate the men of the United States and Canada on basis of their skill and ability in the ring. These ratings are in no way official, but are only our ideas of who is the best. These ratings tend to reflect the men of both Japan and Australia, and to a lesser degree, the rest of the world.

Our system is unique, so a word of explanation will be necessary. Each of our officers send me their ideas of the 30 best men and using a reverse point system, that is 30 for number one, 29 for number 2 and so forth, we arrive at the final points received by each man. Below, then, is our ideas of the 30 best men based on this system. Behind each will be the total points received.

1, Gene Kiniski, 376 points
2, Verne Gagne, 331 points
3, Fritz Von Erich, 323
4, Lou Thesz, 320
5, The Bruiser, 287
6, Bruno Sammartino, 246
7, Ray Stevens, 237
8, Wilbur Snyder, 211
9, The Crusher, 209
10, Shohei Baba, 208
11, Maurice Vachon, 188
12, Johnny Valentine, 180
13, Bill Miller, 173
14, The Destroyer, 169
15, Karl Gotch, 166
16, Bobo Brazil, 163
17, Killer Kowalski, 156
18, Pat O'Connor, 151
19, Bill Watts, 135
20, Kinji Shibuya and Bob Ellis, 124
21, Ed Carpentier, 121
22, Buddy Rogers, 118
23, Mark Lewin and Gorilla Monsoon, 103
24, Buddy Austin, 80
25, Billy Robinson and Ernie Ladd, 79
26, The Shriek, 75
27, Horst Hoffman, 74
28, Johnny Powers, 55
29, Don Leo Jonothan, 49
30, El Toro Ortega, 48

****

New men to our ratings this issue include Powers and Ortega. Five men dropped out so will not list them all. Big rises were noted by Stevens, Valentine, Miller, Carpentier, Austin and the Crusher. Drops by Vachon, Brazil, Kowalski, Watts, and Jonothan. There were a total of 14 lists, with 397 possible points. Only 3 men, Kiniski, Thesz and Von Erich made as many as 13 lists, none made them all.

The biggest rise was by Stevens, who beat Sammartino then drew in later contests. This was the major reason for the rise. Austin, winning the WWA title from Mike DiBiase; this is the reason for his rise. Both Powers and Ortega have been meeting the best around and have won far more than they've lost and richly deserve the ratings.

We emphasize once again that these ratings are in now way official, but only our ideas of the best around. Thank you.

WHO'S DA BEST

THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECT WRESTLER

This section has again become the most popular with the fans and readers. The rules are simple; we have included all of the matches that have taken place thru October and March of this year. A man, to be included has to have at least 20 single matches during that time.

This issue, there are only two men with no losses in 20 or more matches. Below is their names and records:

Don Leo Jonothan, 20 wins, 4 draws
Kintaro Oki, 23 wins, 3 draws

Their were 15 men last issue, but we raised the requirments, thus dropped many. Only two men were dropped due to losses; they are Gene Kiniski, who lost on disqualification to Lou Thesz and Gordon Nelson, who lost on disqualification to Billy Robinson, the European and British champion.

Only one man had no wins in 20 or more matches. He is Franklin G. Hickey who lost 36bouts with no wins or draws. One man had no wins last issue, then won two matches; he is Nick Adams, who beat Angelo Martinelli and Jan Madrid.

The men with the most wins are Spiros Arion with 55 wins, 1 loss, no draws, Kinji Shibuya, 51 wins, 10 losses; 4 draws, Killer Kowalski, 52 wins, 13 losses, 4 draws, 2 no contests, Jess Ortega, 48 wins, 16 losses, 7 draws.

The men with the most losses are Tony Nero, 3 wins, 60 losses, 1 draw; Ricki Sexton, 19 wins, 54 losses, 2 draws; Angelo Savoldi, 14 wins, 43 losses, 3 draws; Tor Kamata, 9 wins, 43 losses, 6 draws.

The record for two men having wrestled against each other the most times is now held be Luke Graham and Ricki Sexton; they have faced each other 12 times. Two combinations, Les Welch versus Sputnik Monroe and Ortega versus Sexton have faced each other 11 times. Few combinations come close to this record.

Many people have commented on the new name given Hickey in these pages. On 4 August in Cumberland, Marlyland, Hickey beat Frank Holtz in a match: the first in quite some time. That is what his new name means. Franklin G I won a match Hickey.

As mentioned earlier, these wins and losses do not really mean that much without a closer look at the records. If a man continually meats the very best men around, ad do such men as Hickey, Sexton and so forth, they natrually will lose more than a man who faces a few soft touches along the line. Therefore, you have to see the full record before deciding how good a man might be.

Who is the best? On virtue of number of wins against top opponents, we would have to say Kintaro Oki, the giant Japanese wrestler. He has wins over such men as Gorilla Monsoon, George Cannon, Mike Paidousis, Abe Jacobs, Tarzan Mortier, Dutch Savage, Art Thomas, Mike DiBiase and many others. A good man in every way, we will run into him more as we progress into April and May of this year.

I'd still like to see a four man tag team between the men with the most wins and those with the most losses. Arion, Shibuya, Kowalski, and Ortega versus Sexton, Savoldi, Nero and Kamata. Twould make wild, wooly wrestling.

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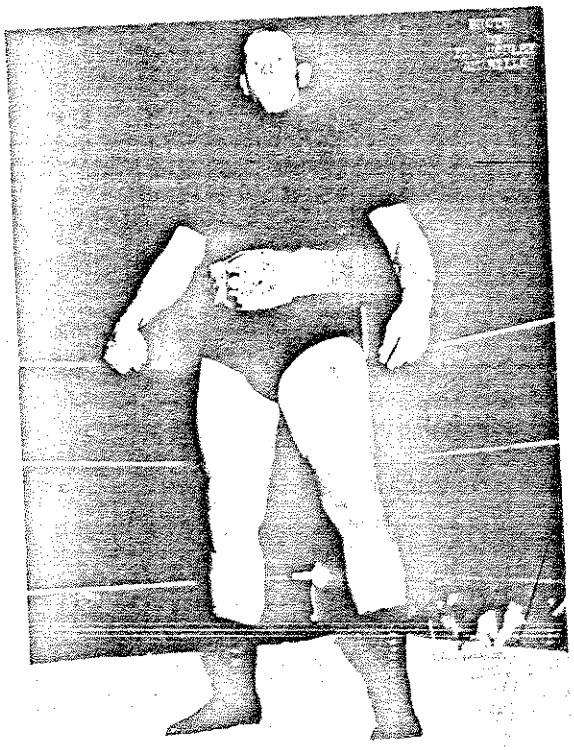


FRITZ VON ERICH

FRITZ VON ERICH

The most popular man currently wrestling in Texas is the big Fritz von Erich. He and his claw hold have taken the State by storm. He has won the hearts of the fans with his stirring contests with Gene Kiniski and has set records for drawing power which may never be surpassed.

He has set these records by giving the fans some of the greatest wrestling they have ever seen. Fritzie has beaten such men as Bearcat Wright, Joe Blanchard, Bob Ellis, Thunderbolt Patterson, Al Costello, Kinji Shibuya, Jim Bernard, Tarzan Tyler, and other such top stars. With bother Waldo, he has won the Tag Team title, beating Costello and Karl Von Brauner, the Internationals.

This record tells little about the man and his ability to take whatever an opponent has to offer and still be able to launch an offensive when the opportunity arises. With his patented claw hold, he is a feared, respected man throughout wrestling. He matches his opponent hold for hold or he can out-rough any man around. In short, he is one of the most all-around men in the game today. A great wrestler, a man who can out-brawl a grizzly bear if required, or can finesse a guy to death. Quite a guy, ole Fritzie; quite a guy.

****

A former AWA world title-holder, Fritz has appeared almost everywhere in the world of wrestling. He is well-known in Canada, Japan, all up and down the mid-west and has set records for drawing power everywhere he has appeared. One of the most noted men in the field today, every fan knows the big, fuzzy headed German.

I've not seen Fritzie too often in my career of wrestling, but the times I have, he has shown himself to be a big, powerful man who could really move in the ring. A villian or hero, depending on who his opponent might be, he has very few faults, as noted by his long string of wins in the ring. We will be doing his full life record in some future issue of MATMANIA, and then we can see even better his all around ability and skill. Beyond any doubt, he is one of the best of the day.

****

Not too many years ago, he and Karl Von Schober combined to make one of the biggest, roughest and toughest tag team combinations in the history of the game. They won the Canadian Open Tag title as well as the world title. They had a series of matches against fellow villians Hans Schmidt and Hans Herman which will certainly go down in history as the biggest brawls to ever be seen. They also managed to out-duel such villian teams as Reggie Lisowski and Art Neilson, Hans and Fritz Schnable and other notable combos. Now with his brother, Waldo, Fritz has maintained his hold on the top of the heap in the tag world. Currently the title-holders in Texas, they have beaten many noted combinations, notably Costello and Von Brauner, and Mike Paidousis and Jim Bernard alias the Brute and the Brain. As noted, Fritz is one of the best, and his record in Texas and the rest of the world will bare this out fully.

****

RESULTS FROM TEXAS

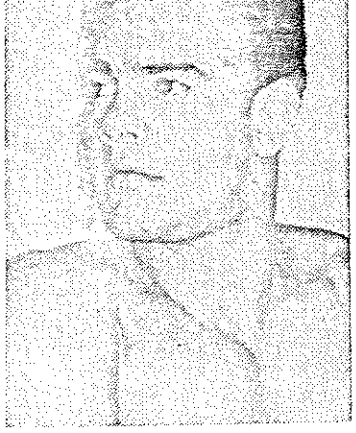
1 Sept. Clovis. Luis Hernandez won royal. Terry Funk W Thunderbolt Patterson. Gory Guerrero and Hernandez W Kinji Shibuya and Jerry Miller disq. Nick Roberts W Jack Cain.
4 Sept. Ft. Worth. Danny Plechas W Sundown Kid. Jack Brisco W Mark Starr. Red Lyons W Rocky Montero. Karl Kox W Boyd Pierce in a special handicap match. Spoiler W Bull Curry.4 Sept. AUSTIN. Angel Montez W Chris Hardy. Waldo Von Erich W Karl Karlson. Joe Scarpa W Jim Bernard disq. Buddy Moreno W Mike Paidousis.
6 Sept. LUBBOCK. Miller D Don Slatton. Dory Funk Jr W Art Neilson. Tokyo Joe W Hernandez. Medic and Doctor Blood W Ricky Romero and Jerry Kozak. Patterson W Shibuya.
11 Sept. Scarpa W Karlson. Brisco W Kox. Spoiler W Lyons. Curry W Plechas. Fritz and Waldo Von Erich W Bernard and Paidousis.
12 Sept. DALLAS. Brisco W Chris Hardy. Waldo W Starr and Karlson. Scarpa W Paidousis disq. Spoiler W Moreno. Kox and Bernard W Lyons and Curry.
13 Sept. SAN ANTONIO. Benny Matta W Starr. Waldo W Paidousis. Lyons W Karlson. Jim Bernard W Curry. Moreno W Kox.
18 Sept. FT. WORTH. Moreno W Starr. Paidousis W Pedro Godoy. Lyons and Scarpa W Plechas and Spoiler. Kox D Brisco. Bernard W Curry.
19 Sept. DALLAS. Plechas W Godoy. Scarpa D Waldo. Spoiler W Ken Hollis. Lyons W Paidousis. Von Erich W Bernard.

****

The top arrivalin Texas this past month is one of the greatest of the Old Soldeirs, Pedro Godoy. A bouncy, buoyant man, he will undoubtedly be a big hit down there with all of the fans who like their action ruff and tuff. Mark Starr also arrived shortly before the above series, and he, too, will be a welcome addition. With the team of Fritz and Waldo Von Erich teaming more regularly, with The Brain, Mike Paidousis, teaming with the Brute, Jim Bernard, plus the other teams active for periods of time, things are really looking up in that sphere of action.

Last issue, we ran an article on Thunderbolt Patterson, during which he stated that he was the greatest wrestler in the world. As noted above, he has beaten Kinji Shibuya and is already getting a great deal of support for rating honors. It is refreshing to see a person who can wrestle as well as he can talk. He and his cousin, Earl Maynard, also won a handicap match over Gene Kiniski, with TB winning the deciding fall. This took place in Amarillo on 24 August. In short, TB Patterson might be a serious man who is as much ability as chatter.

The current Texas champion is Buddy Moreno, having beaten Buddy Austin for the honors in San Antonio on 9 August of this year. Buddy, a 230 pounder from Acapulco, Mexico, is another great, young wrestler who is rapidly making a name for himself with his stylish ability in the ring. Originally from the South America, the stocky speedster has won an army of supporters due to his wind-mill attack. Watch the name, Mario, Buddy, Moreno. He's really going to go places.



Now, as always, Texas has some of the greatest wrestling in the country and world. The promoters continually bring in new men to add fresh blood to the mat wars there. I can never congratulate the men and women of that area enough. They's goodies in every way.

A word on Mark Starr. This man has wrestled under a variety of aliases of late. Notably as the Mongul is the Mobile area and as the Shiek in Indianapolis area. Helps to know all the different names under which a man has worked.

On the night of 22 September in Houston, Texas the NWA world champion, Gene Kiniski, met his number one challenger, Fritz Von Erich. The 275 pound Gene was pushed thourghe out the first few minutes of the first fall by the 265 pound Fritz. He started to catch up by using karate while Fritz was on the ropes, as the referee, Dick Raines tried to break them up. Gene threw the challenger out of the ring, then stomped on his head a few times as Von Erich's head was at ring-side level. Then Fritz slammed Gene's head against the first row of seats after pulling him out to the floor. The climax of the first fall came when Gene slammed Fritz into a corner turn-buckle then picked him up for a body slam only to put him down across his knee in a back-breaker. Fritz was counted out for the first fall in 6:21 minutes.

During the two minute intermission, Gene kicked and stomped Fritz while he was down on the mat.

The second fall started with Fritzie being cornered in the ring. He tripped Gene and applied his claw hold only to have the champion escape to the ropes, and the ref made them break. Kiniski again tried karate and upended Von Erich and stomped him some more while Fritz's head was over the bottom strand of ropes. Gene was thrown out onto the floor, among the fans. When he got back in, Fritz grabbed the champ in the claw hold and Gene gave up in 9:32 minutes.

During this intermisssion, Von Erich did the kicking and stomping while Gene was out of it.

The third fall started out in a real slugging match between the two huge mat-men. Then Fritz threw Kiniski into the turn-buckle and applied the claw hold again. As Von Erich was applying all the pressure possible, Gene upended him, throwing him out of the ring over the top rope, which called for an automatic disqualification of the champion. The time was 3:57.

Fritz didn't want a disqualification win as he could not win the title. So he again applied the claw hold while Dick Raines tried to make them break. Fritz belted him a good one, then the ref jumped in between them and broke it up. For belting the referee Fritz von Erich was disqualified and Kiniski declared the winner.

Von Erich was in far better shape than the champion, but still was not the winner. After he told off the ref, Raines, Fritz left the ring, as angry as an old wet hen.

****

The under-card on this program: Jack Brisco won over Krusher Karlsson. Waldo Von Erich, the brother of Fritzie, won over Bulldog Danny Plechas. The Spoiler #1, managed by Playboy Gary Hart, won over Joe "Rebel" Scarpa. Mario "Buddy" Moreno retained his Texas Heavyweight title and belt over Killer Karl Kox. Jim "The Brute" Bernard and Mike "The Brain" Paidousis drew against Bull Curry and Billy "Red " Lyons. And, of course, Gene Kiniski declared the winner over Fritz Von Erich by disqualification in what amounted to four falls.

*****

The real show-stealer, tho, was the tag match, which ended with Curry and the Brute wrestling UNDER the ring. Battling it out under the ring, would be more like it, tho. Things sure 'nuff are wild down that way, hey what?

****

BULL CURRY

BULL CURRY

WRESTLING'S DIRTY OLD MAN

Down Texas way, where the action gets hot and heavy, and the wrestlers are as tough as they come, there is a man known far and wide as perhaps the toughest of all wrestling veterans. Bull Curry is by no means a big man, but many a big man has been whittled down to size by this little old man that every wrestling fan loves to hate. Bull has been called, among other things, man's missing link. It's not hard to think of him as such as he stands before you with a face that bears the scars of many years of wrestling. Of course, the Bull's trademark is his eyebrows. These eyebrows are perhaps the most you'll ever see on any one man. They seem to completely engulf his eyes.

Bull is strictly a knock-down, drag-out type of brawler whose talents would be be completely wasted in a "scientific" match. He lives up to the name "Bull" as he wreaks havoc in the ring, never allowing a dull moment to pass. He gives every bit as much as he takes, sometimes giving more. His battles with Fritz Von Erich, Jim Bernard, Karl Kox, Louie Tillet, Tokyo Tom and Tarzan Tyler are all classics.

Bull has held the Brass Knuckles title in Texas on several occassions, losing it to other villians like Tillet and Tony Borne. As a sort of semi-hero in Texas rings, Bull can slug, kick and gouge and still remain in the good graces of the fans in his adapted home. Sometimes Bull journeys up to the New England area, where he started out and where he is strictly a villian. He has given U.S. Heavyweight champ, Frank Scarpa, many bad moments in that area and when he wears out his welcome in Texas, he'll probably go back there and try for the belt again.

Old wrestlers like Bull Curry don't just fade away: they go out swinging.

by Terry Rains

****

The 216 poun Curry is the father of Fred Curry, one of the top junior heavyweights. Fred is quick to point out that it washis father who taught him everything he knows in wrestling. Currently wrestling in the Detroit and Ohio areas, Fred has been after his father, Bull, to come north to appear with him in tag matches. If they do get together, fans will see one of the best father and son teams of all time.

Bull Curry is feuding with the Brute, Jim Bernard at present, and they have had several hair-raising matches, with each drawing blood. Jim is cordially and completely hated by everyone down in Texas, except possibly, his parents, and Bull is really backed by the fans when he faces Bernard. Ruff and tuff, ole Bull Curry is still one of the greatest of them all.

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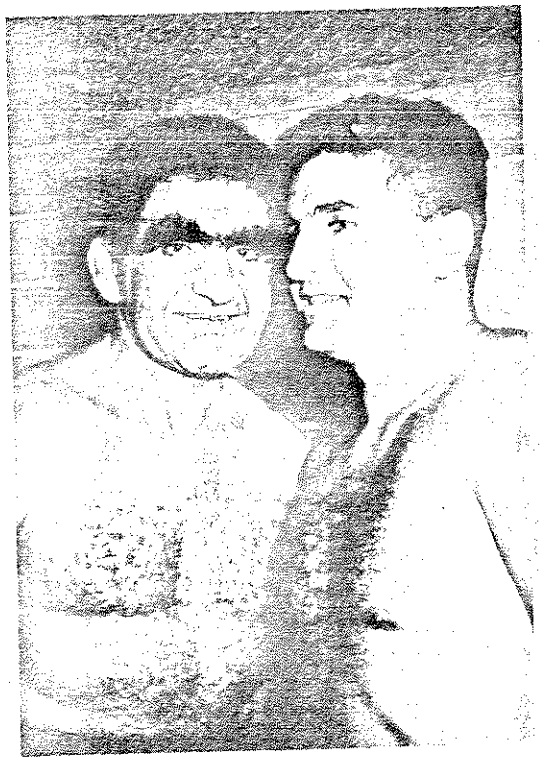
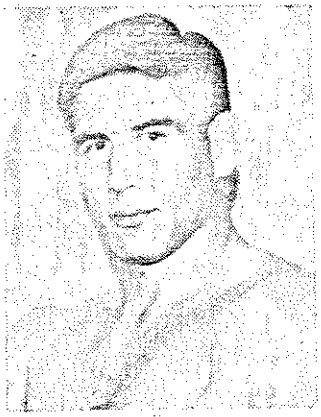


BULL CURRY FRED CURRY

One of the top contenders for the junior heavyweight title is young Jack Brisco, the 225 pound star from Stillwater, Oklahoma. Currently appearing in Texas rings, he has had several thrilling matches with the champion, Danny Hodge and even beat him in a non-title match in Joplin, Missouri earlier this year.

Jack has beaten many top-flight men during his short career. Included are such men as Karl Karlsen, Danny Plechas, Mike Paidousis, Alex Perez, Mark Starr, Chris Tolos, Bobby Orton, Ronnie Etchison, and Rocky Montero. A top challenger of Texas champ, Buddy Moreno, Brisco is a graduate of one of the most famous colleges in the histry of wrestling, Oklahoma A and M. With his younger brother, Gerald, also wrestling, we can look forward to many top flight matches in years to come from the two likable brothers.

Jack Briscoe



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With the winter season about to begin or already started, many locals will once again have regular wrestling. Several cities shut down operation during the hot summer months; this includes Joplin Missouri and St. Joseph, Mo. The promoters involved have found that the fans do not like coming out during these periods. When these two cities get back in full swing, look for several new men and tag teams to be comin into the area. Notably is the great young Japanese star, Sakaguchi. Currently appearing in southern California, he has been trained by two of the greatest wrestlers of all time, Mister Moto and Karl Gotch. Knowing judo and karate beforehand, he has now learned more of the western style of wrestling and should be a real handful for the wrestlers of the Ozarks.

Skandar Akabar, known as the Human Brick, is one of the toughest men in wrestling. Often referred to as a gorilla and other non-printable names, Akabar's favourite manouver is to throw an opponent into the ropes, then dare the guy to try to knock him off his feet. Almost as wide as he is tall, the 230 pounder has thus far withstood the efforts of most of his opponents.

Skandor Akabar

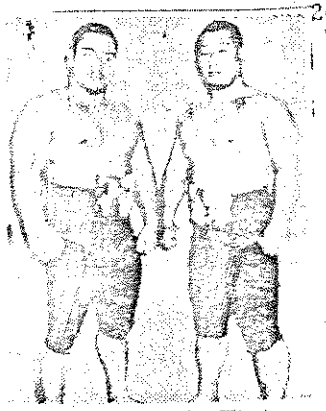
A wild man in the ring, the hairy Skandar is a combination of hero and villian. The fans only tolerate his skull-dugery in the ring while against a more hated man. Currently appearing in the Ozarks, he has wrestled in virtually every area of the world and has beaten such men as The Ox, Timmy Geohagen, Jerry London, Tony Manos, Rocky Montero and many others. He has had several wild matches with junior heavyweight champ, Danny Hodge, and even though he lost them all, Danny knew he was in a wild, wooly contest from beginning to end. Watch this guy, Skandar Akabar; he is really going to go places.

******

Skandar has worked under a variety of names during his career. He insists, tho, that Akabar is his real "tag". A Lebanese wrestler, he was afraid of making this known, as he felt his opponents would literally freeze up when discovering the great talent inherant in all men from that country.

Known as the Danny Thomas of wrestling, the hawk-nosed guy is a wild one and will really be a top notcher with more experience.

19 Aug. MEMPHIS TV. Preach Phillips D Bull Montana. Blue Infernos W Bob Hanby and Lenny Hurley.
19 Aug. TALLAHASSEE. El Lobo W Chris Toledo. Goliath W Bronco Kelly. Sputnik Monroe and Karl Von Brauner W El Gran Lotheric and Silento Rodriguez.
21 Aug. MEMPHIS. Steve Kovacs W Jack Vansky. Bobby Hines D Billy Garrett. Corsica Joe D Oki Yamaha. Jackie Fargo W Don Greene. Infernos W Herb Welch and Len Rossi.
21 Aug. ORLANDO. Art Thomas and Eddie Graham W Monroe and Von Brauner. Hiro Matsuda D Sam Steamboat.
21 Aug. BIRMINGHAM. Herb Larsen D Jimmy Hines. Hillbillies (Mac York and Phillips. Don and Rip Carson W Oki Yamaha and Tomaha Sato.
22 Aug. PENSACOLA. Bobby Fields W Luis Garcia. Len Lucas W Rip Tyler. Jim Dalton and the Ox D Eddie Sullivan and Jim Hines.
24 Aug. NORFOLK. Gene Dundee W Chief Little Eagle. Tex McKenzie W Pedro Godoy. Kentuckians W Infernos managed by J.C. Dykes. Gene and Lars Anderson W Amazing Zuma and Luther Lindsey.
25 Aug. ATLANTA. Ray Gunkel W Dick Dunn. Al Perez and Louie Tillet W Buddy Fuller and Mario Galento. Rick Hunter W Jerry Graham. Tim Woods and El and Ray Torres W Paul and Stan Vachon and El Mongul.
26 Aug. MEMPHIS TV. Billy Hines W Montana. Oni and Oki Yama W Bill and Joe Sky.
26 Aug. BIRMINGHAM TV. Sato W Vansky. Carsons W Bill Spears and Jim Hines. Kovacs W Sonny Scott.
26 Aug. PENSACOLA TV. Vegas Bros W Nick Kontos and Garcia. Sullivan W Rip Tyler.
26 Aug. DOTHAN TV. Sullivan and Fields W Jim Dalton and Ox.
26 Aug. BIRMINGHAM. Carsons D Oni Hamaha and Sato. Infernos D Hillbillies. Corsica Joe W Jim Hines.
29 Aug. RALEIGH. Larry Hamilton and Pampero Firpo W Zuma and Lindsey. McKenzie W Lars Anderson. Gene Anderson W Jerry London. Nelson Royal W Bull Ramos. Little Eagle W Dundee.
29 Aug. PENSACOLA. Vegas Bros W Jim Hines and Sullivan. Jim Grabmire D Jim Dalton. Lucas W Pancho Villa. Fields W Ox.
30 Aug. MOBILE. Vegas Bros W Jim Hines and Sullivan. Dalton and Ox W sorry lost to Fields and Kucas. Grabmire W Villa.
2 Sept. LEXINGTON. Dennis Hall W Jan Madrid. Roger Kirby W Vansky. Rip Hawk and Swede Hanson W Rudy Kay and London. Kentuckians W Hamilton and Firpo.
2 Sept. PENSACOLA TV. Grabmire W Ox. Lucas and Sullivan W Villa and Dalton.
5 Sept. HIGH POINT TV. Kay and Les Thatcher W Ramos and Dundee. Billy Red Cloud and Little Eagle NC Aldo Bogni and Bronco Lubich.
5 Sept. RALEIGH. Firpo W Red Osborne. Bobby Weaver W Larry Hamilton. Lindsey and Zuma W Hawk and Hansen. Andersons W Royal and McKenzie.
7 Sept. GREENSBORO. Zuma W Firpo disq. Hamilton W London. Infernos W Red Cloud and Little Eagle. Becker and Weaver W Hawk and Hansen. Bogni, Lubich and Homer O'Dell W Scott Brothers and Lindsey.
8 Sept. CHARLESTON. Scotts W Andersons. Thatcher and Kay W Mummy and Ramos. Greg Peterson W Madrid. London W Angelo Martinelli.
9 Sept. LEXINGTON. London W Mummy. George Harris W Tony Romano. P.Y. Chung and Great Sasaki W Hall and Kirby. Scotts W Hamilton and Firpo.
14 Sept. CHARLESTON. Scotts W Sasaki and Chung. Red Cloud and Martinelli W Dundee and Red Osborne. Zuma W Pancho Valdez. Peterson D Bull Ramos.
16 Sept. LEXINGTON. Greg Peterson W Jan Madrid. Lindsey W Valdez. Infernos NC Red Cloud and Little Eagle. George and Sandy Scott W George Harris and Pampero Firpo.
18 Sept. CHARLOTTE. Scotts W Infernos. Red Cloud and Little Eagle W Chung and Sasaki disq. Weaver W Valdez. Harris W Thatcher.



チャンピオンベルトを腰にすっかり貫禄もついたヤマハブラザーズの雄姿（左が山本、右が）

The Yamaha Brothers are Kusetsu Yamamoto and Hishino, two young wrestlers from Japan.

The action in the Southern States continues hot and heavy with several new additions to the wrestlers there. In the Mobile/Pensacola area, the newest man is the huge Jim Grabmore, the Springfield, Ohio star. A big bear of a man, he has become a top hero down there.

The Florida area has also gotten some new men, altho they do not show in the results on the previous page. The top man is one of the greatest in the world of wrestling, Johnny Valentine. They also got the Stroheim Brothers back, as well as Tarzan Tyler.

The Carolinas and Virgina also got several new men in; notably Pampero Firpo, Billy Red Cloud, Rudy Kay, Pancho Valdez, Dennis Hall and Roger Kirby. Added to the top men already there, this gives them one of the most attractive areas, talent-wise, in the world.

The Memphis/ Birmingham area had visits from Jack Vansky one of the tuffest campaigners the world of wrestling has ever known. Also the emergence of the Yamaha Brothers as top nothcers. The area still has some of the most popular men in the world in Jackie Fargo, Len Rossi and Herb Welch.

RIP HAWK IN ACTION

Valentine won the Florida State title somehere along the line, but I do not know when or where. Mario Galento is also the Georgia State title-holder, by virtue of beating El Mongul, but when and where, I again do not know. Perhaps some of our local members can let us know this info. Lerry Hamilton and Pampero Firpo are the new Southern Tag Team champs having beaten Becker and Weaver for the honors.

Two late arrivals in the South are Haystacks Calhoun in the Carolinas area, and Klondike Bill down in Floirida. Calhoun is currently teaming with Amazing Zuma, the acrobatic star from Argentina. They should do well together.

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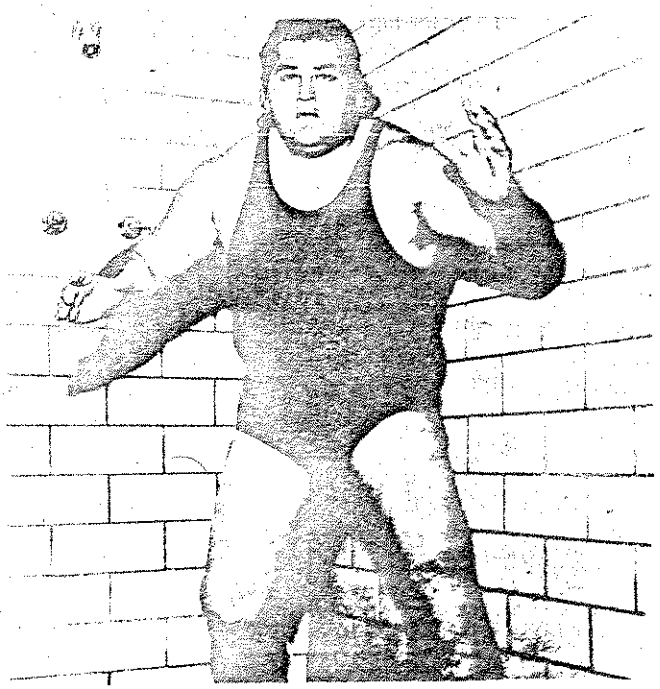

BULL RAMOS

One of the top stars of the Carolinas is Bull Ramos, the man pictured on the left. A recent arrival both in that area and in wrestling itself, he has rapidly won a great many fans in a style that has nver been recommended by Dale Carnegie, the Author of "How to Make Friends and Influence People." Bull, a huge man, wins most of his bouts by using a method that had disappeared with the cave man. A wild, ruff man, he is well-recommended to all those fans who favor the sadistic style of wrestling. Ramos never uses a legal hold when a lethal or illegal one will do. In short, he is my kind of wrestler; afraid of no one, quick to mix it up with everyone, and ready to take a punch to give one in return. A 275 pounder, he favors such holds as the belly-flop and the pan-cake hold to finish off his luck-less opponents. Him sounds like a goodie.

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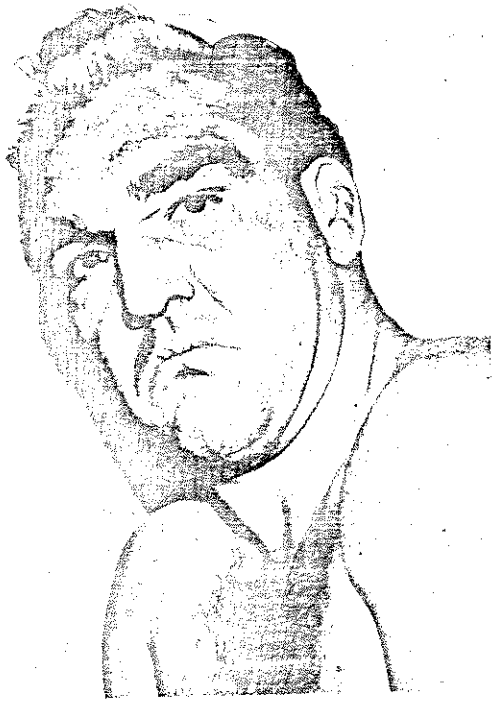
SPUTNIK MONROE



SPUTNIK MONROE

The top attraction throughout the Deep South is the man known to fans as "The Sweet Man", Sputnik Monroe. The 5'7", 229 pounder is currently feuding with fellow villian and ex-tag team partner, Karl Von Brauner; also with Karl's manager, Saul Weingeroff. Thus far, the Sweet Man has more than held his own against his heavier foes.

A top attraction in such cities as Memphis, Birmingham, Atlanta, Tampa and Miami, Sputnik usually tag teams with his brother Rocket, but he was injured recently in a match with Art Thomas and may never wrestle again. Now Sputnik, again wrestling as a single, is continuing the Monroe tradition and has beaten such men as Les Welch, Buddy Fuller, Don Curtis, Eddie Graham, Al Perez, Greg Peterson, and even held the great Lou Thesz, to a draw.

One of the greatest of the Triple W set (wild, wonderful and wacky), Soutnik "The Sweet Man" Monroe is fabulous in every way.

A top contendor for the junior heavyweight title held by Danny Hodge, Sputnik has challenged the champion on many occassions, but thus far Dan has steared clear of the man with the wild streak in his hair and in his nature. When they do meet, watch for a new champion to be crowned.

Well known everywhere in the South, Soutnik has wrestled in Texas, all up and down the mid-west area, expecially the Ozark region, and is now the top attraction in Florida. The Sweet Man resides near Atlanta, where his name on the top of the card, is always a guarantee sell-out. Truly a fabulous man in every way, Sputnik Monroe richly deserves the name of "The Sweet Man".

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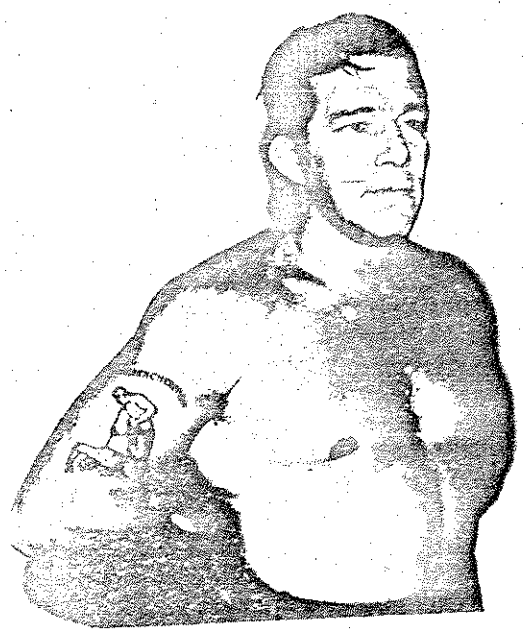
TREACH PHILLIPS

Every morning, when the sun rises in the East, there are men who improve with the passage of time. Such a man is the little dynamo known as Treach Phillips, the top ranking junior heavyweight star. A pro of some 15 years experience, he has seldom been a big winner, but is one of the rarities of the wrestling world: a man who gives 110 % effort at all times. Small as wrestlers go, he wades in to all opponents, throwing fists, feet, arms, legs, and holds in all directions at the same time and literally over-whelms his opponent.

About 5'8" and 200 pounds soaking wet, he has often met men out-weighing him by 100 pounds or more and he manages to win more than he loses. Included in his win column are such men as Professor Ito, Corsica Joe, Sam Platt, Mario Galento, and Bob Hamby A top contendor for Junior Heavyweight honors, Treach Phillips is truly a marvel of our age.



TREACH PHILLIPS

One of the top stars in the world of gal grappling is the vivacious, wert Penny Banner. Married to the South's top star, Johnny Weaver, Banner sticks close to her home in Roanoke, Virginia, but still manages to wrestle three or four times a week, against such top stars as Peggy Allen, Tammy Jones and others. One of the most scientific of the femele stars, she has a hot, Firey temper which she loses on occassions. Most of her losses have been due to disqualifications after losing her well-known temper. "When I see the things that some of the girls get away with, and what I have to put up with, I get so hot under the collar that I just blow up. When that happens, I do my darndest to tear them apart."

Winner of the contest for the most beautiful female wrestle four years straight, Penny has often been asked to appear in movies, but she prefers her life with Johnny and her two young children. She also likes the chane to continue testing her skil and ability against her opponents. "The contests are really great, and they give me a chance to keep fully prepared for every emergency," she explained.

A gorgeous, beautiful girl as well as a great wrestler, Penny Banner deserves her place in the ratings as few others do.

****

One of the roughest and toughest men to appear in Atlanta is the man with the world of experience, Mario Galento. No longer the young speed demon of times past, he relies now on that experience gained thru matches around the rings of the South, of Texas and of the Ozarks area. He has met almost every man who has appeared in those areas and is quick to mix it with any of them. "Only cowards rely speed; speed to run away from me." The favourite son of Atlanta, a city known for their rough matches, Mario is the owner of a thriving Pizza Arena located in Lilburn Georgia. "The Italians have long been noted for their skill in the kitchen and at the table. I am no exception, and I really enjoy the chance to do a bit of puttering around the kitchen and then eating my own food," he said recently.

Mario is as tuff as they come, and is completely wild inside the squared circle. Just ask his opponents, and they will agree that the ole campaigner is still capable of beating any man in the world.

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TAG TEAM RATINGS

In each issue of MATMANIA, we rate the men of the tag team world on basis of their wins and losses in the ring. Thus far, we have included the matches of January through April of this year. We have included only those teams that work together on a regular basis andhave had five or more decisions. As usual, these ratings are in no way official, but are only our ideas of the best.

Below are the top 15 teams and their won/loss record behind them:

1, Benning and Race, 18 wins, 3 losses
2, George and Sandy Scott, 23 wins, 6 (six) losses
3, The Assassins, 28 wins, 11 losses
4, Becker and Weaver, 19 wins, 4 losses
5, Hawk and Hansen, 24 wins, 10 losses
6, Shikuna and Yokouchi, 14 wins, 1 loss
7, Chris and John Tolos, 10 wins, 3 losses
8, McDaniels and Lotharlo, 10 wins, 3 losses
9, Gene and Lars Anderson, 16 wins, 6 losses
10, Blue Infernos, 12 wins, no losses
11, Don and Rip Carson, 13 wins, 7 losses
12, Infernos, managed by J.C. Dykes, 16 wins, 11 losses
13, Arion and Pugliese, 7 wins, 2 losses
14, Crusher and Bruiser, 5 wins, 4 losses
15, Geigel and Brown, 10 wins, 4 losses

****

There has been a mild shake-up in the ratings due to the activity in early April of the Japanese team of Yokouchi and Shikuna. Fresh from England, they made a whirl-wind tour of the Ozarks, winning the vast majority of their matches. Also on a winning spree was the team of Geigel and Brown. Two teams were dropped; Bogni and Lubich and the Kentuckians, both of whom had records of almost fifty/fifty, wins versus losses.

Hawk and Hansen dropped from third place to fifth. This was due to a tour they took during early April, during which time they had matches in Atlanta, Texas and Southern California. They had six wins during this tour, but also had 3 losses, thus dropped two notches. They were replaced by Becker and Weaver, who picked up 2 wins versus no loses since last issue.

Yokouchi and Shikuna had three wins before coming to this country. They quickly won 11 more, thus jumped right up near the top of our ratings. They jumped over both the Tolos Brothers and McDa niels and Lotherio, both of whom were inactive during April.

Parisi and Arion dropped three places due to losses to Monsoon and Ortega, then to Monsoon and Morgan. This leaves only the Blue Infernos undeafeated, but they did not gain in the ratings, due to their only meeting teams in the Memphis area. When they begin meeting other rated teams, such as the Carsons, they might have a chance to move higher.

The Carsons gained four wins during April, but did not gain in the ratings, due to the fact that they also had three losses. A good, young team, they should be moving up when they get more experience and face better teams.

Again, the South is liberally represented, having ten of the top 15 teams in the ratings. They always have one or two tag team matches on their cards, and the fans see some of the best in team matches. The biggest gainers, in number of wins, during the month was the team of Yokouchi and Shikuna, with 11 wins, followed by the team of the Assassins, who picked up 10 wins. The ratings will be interesting to watch, as those two teams wrestle each other several times.

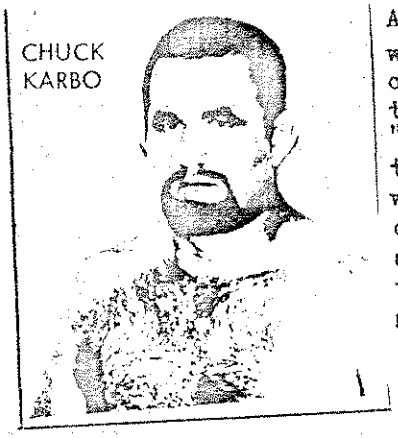
RESULTS FROM THE OZARKS

28 August. TULSA. Executioners NC Assassins. Gorgeous George W Chuck Karbo. Tony Manos W Pancho Rosario. Jesse James D Juan Sebastian. Gerald Brisco D Charley Carr.
31 Aug. LONGVIEW. Danny Hodge W Tarzan Baxter. Skandar Akabar and Paul Jones W Oki Shikuna and Chati Yokouchi disq. Jones W Shikuna. Akabar W Yokouchi.
4 Sept. TULSA. Jones and George W Shikuna and Yokouchi. Jessica Rogers W Kay Noble. Akabar W Baxter. Manos W Brisco.
5 Sept. LITTLE ROCK. George and Jones W Shikuna and Yokouchi. Rogers W Noble. Hodge and Akabar W Baxter and Karbo.
6Sept. SPRINGFIELD. Noble W Rogers. George D Johnny Heideman. George and Jones W Executioners. Rogers and Eddie Sullivan W Noble and Carr.
9 Sept. JOPLIN. Yokouchi and Shikuna D Hodge and Akabar. Rogers W Noble. Manos W Brisco.
11 Sept. TULSA. Hodge and Akabar W Shikuna and Yokouchi. George and Jones W Assassins. Manos W Sebastian. Kit Fox W Carr.
13 Sept. SPRINGFIELD. Jones D Assassin 2. George W Ass 1. Manos W Sebastian. Jones and George W Assassins.

****

Jesse James, the top-flight veteran, has left the area, but to where, I don't know as of yet. New arrivals include Kit Fox and Chuck Karbo. Fox, one of the best Indian wrestlers, resides in that general area, while Karbo has been appearing lately in the Southwest area. Both will be welcome to the Ozarks region.

Not too many years ago, Juan Sebastian and Pedro Godoy made up one of the greatest teams in the history of wrestling: the Medics. There have been many teams using this name, but Juan and Pedro were the originators and most famous. Godoy is now working in Texas, while just north of him is the Ozarks, where Sebastian is working. Possibly.....


CHUCK KARBO

One of my favourite wrestlers of recent years is Chuck Karbo. A humpty dumpty little man, he looks and acts like he had a few wild screws loose somewhere. A reddish beard, very short crew-cut set off eyes that resemble a man who had been out in the sun too long. His body is the tyoe that could only be described as "Having a spare tire". In short, he looks like the typical wrestler of this day and age. He carries about 225 pounds around with a style like Don Manoukian, the great Reno grappler and other roly-poly men. Humorous at times, he can be all serious action when times demand it. In short, he has everything it takes to be one of thetop men in the world of wrestling. Hims a goodie, and I miss him.

The Assassins have been tah champs in the Ozarks region most of the time of late, but I am not sure who is champions right now. I do know that the Kentuckians, Luke Brown and Jake Smith, have returned, or are about to, so the fans there can look forward to some wild tag team matches soon.

The two teams have met many times in the past, and they still hold the record of consecutive sell-outs throughout the area. They've also sold out arenas from California to Florida and I am sure they will do so again. There is little love lost between the two teams, and the fans can all be assured of hundred percent action when they meet. Or should I have spelled that "meat" in view of the rather ponderous bulk carried around by the Kentuckians?

Both are wild teams; both can wrestle with the best of them, and both teams can take and dish out a great deal of punishment. In short, they are perfectly matched.

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RESULTS FROM THE MID-WEST

16 Aug. FARMINGTON, MO. Ron Reed W Johnny Kace. Verne Bottoms W Rose Kelly. Bob Ellis and John Paul Heming W Jack Donovan and Jungle Jim Starr.
17 Aug. KANSAS CITY. Bob Brown and Bob Geigel W Reed and Stomper. Viking W Hangman. Pat O'Connor D Earl Maynard. Koatichi W John Fogerty.
19 Aug. ST. JOSEPH TV Gerald Brisco W Hangman. Eddie Sullivan D Geigel. Hangman and Geigel versus Brisco and Sullivan.
25 Aug. ST. LOUIS. Lou Thesz W Johnny Powers. Fritz Von Erich W Heming. Wilbur Snyder and Sonny Myers W Starr and Moose Cholak. Waldo von Erich W Joe Tangero. Ellis W Waldo. Jean Antone and Betty Nicoli W Kelly and Bottoms. Ronnie Etchison W Donovan. Maynard W Viking.
26 Aug. ST. LOUIS TV. Treach Phillips W Igor Volkoff. Joe Tomasso D Thor Hagen. Reed and Etchison W Tor Kamata and ???????. Cholak D O'Connor.
31 Aug. KANSAS CITY. Reed and Stomper W Geigel and Brown. Hangman W Viking. Donovan D Maynard. O'Connor W Kamata. Steve Bolus W Tiny Mills.
2 Sept. ST. LOUIS TV. Bob Boyer D Mitsu Arakawa. Snyder W Tomasso. O'Connor W Fogerty. Donovan W Phillips. Hagen W Frank Altman.
15 Sept. ST. LOUIS. Von Erich W Thesz disq. Ellis W Waldo. Carpentier D Dick the Bruiser. O'Connor W Chalak. Snyder and Johnny Valentine W Donovan and Arakawa. Crusher W Parente. Calvin Pullins W Tomasso.

*****

There are rumors to the extent that Jungle Jim Starr is also the Hangman. Someone there could tell me better on this. One of the greatest of the younger men, Starr has everything it takes to be one of the top pros for years to come. A villian and a wild, wild man in the ring, he keepsthe fans on the edge of their seats from beginning to end. Watch the boy; he is really going to go places.

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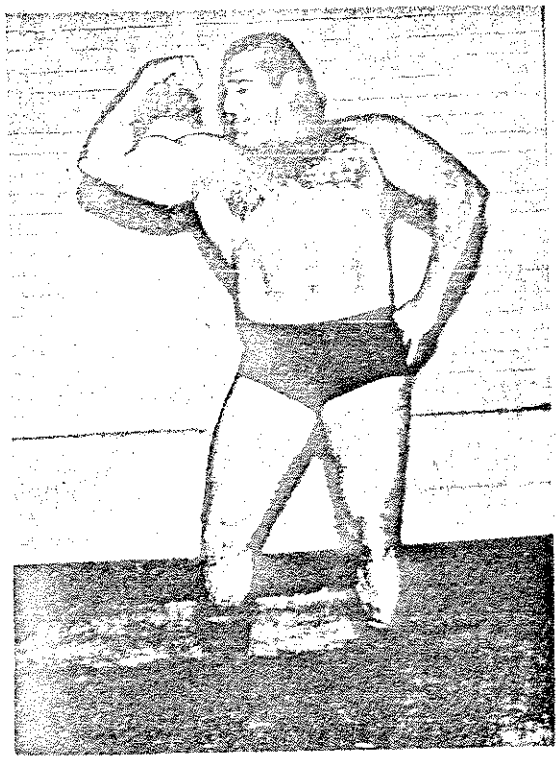
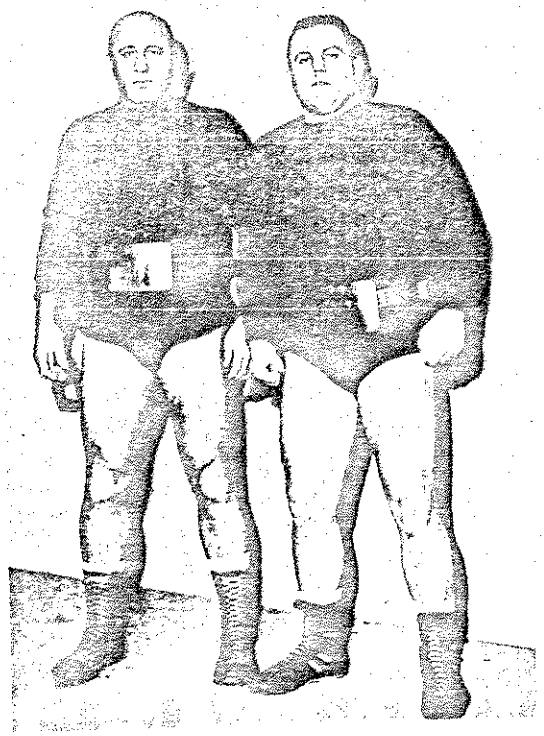


JUNGLE JIM STARR



BROWN AND GEIGEL

600-OUND ARKANSAN TOPS PRO BENEFIT FOR PREPS

HAYSTACK SPEAKS SOFTLY, CARRIES BIG WEIGHT IN THE RING

Haystack Calhoun is a professional wrestler, all 68-inches around-the-waist and 600-plus pounds of him.

He speaks in a soft voice that has a touch of southern accent. Actually, there is no percentage in him roaring and acting gruff. Nobody's gonna bother him anyway.

Calhoun will be one of the featured grapplers Monday night when a benefit will be held for Oklahoma's high school all-star wrestling team. Funds will be used to help pay expenses for a 10-stop tour of Japan.

Promoter LeRoy McGuirk's mat program at the Assembly Center will be fair. Calhoun will have to take on two men at one time. His opposition will be Pancho Rosario and Ruben Costello. Haystack either wins or gets no paycheck for his work.

"Actually," said the native of Morgan's Corner, Ark. "we called it 'soufflin' back in Arkansas, but after I found out I could get paid, it became even more fun."

It's been fun and games for him for 11 years now.

He visited the Tulsa (Okla) Daily World offices Saturday to have his picture taken with a couple of the high school stars, Jack Harris of Hale and Jim Sloan of Webster.

Harris weighs 152 pounds and Sloan 121. Calhoun picked them up and waved them about as World photographer Don Hamilton too several pictures.

Haystack's long, wavy black hair was done to a neat rurn down his neck and matched with a heavy, dark beard. A deep, red scar on his forehead served a s as remeinder that pro 'scufflin' isn't all fun and games.

He measures in at 6-4 and "just tell folks I weigh more than 600 pounds," he said. "Actually, my weight changes considerably from day to day."

But, he will be in top form Monday night at the Assembly Center when he tackles Rosario and Costello.

*****

The writer of the above article is Jesse Owens of the Tulsa Daily World, from which it was originally printed and reproduced.

Calhoun is possibly the best known and most popular man in the world of wrestling today. He has appeared in virtually every state of the Union as well as Canada, Australia and Japan. He has met most of the top villians over the years and is most famous when tag teaming with a much lighter, speedier man. Thus, he can trap an opponent in his most famous hold, a simple set-down on hus luck-less foes.

Currently appearing in the Carolinas and Virginia, he is teaming with one of the speediest men in the business, Amazing Zuma. They will make life miserable for their opponents, but furnish the fans with some of the greatest fun and best matches in years.

Haystacks Calhoun may not be the best wrestler in the world, but he furnishes that which is necessary: a good, interesting, fun match from beginning to end.

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On the left is Haystacks in one of his most famous pictures. Which is the real?

RATING THE GIRLS

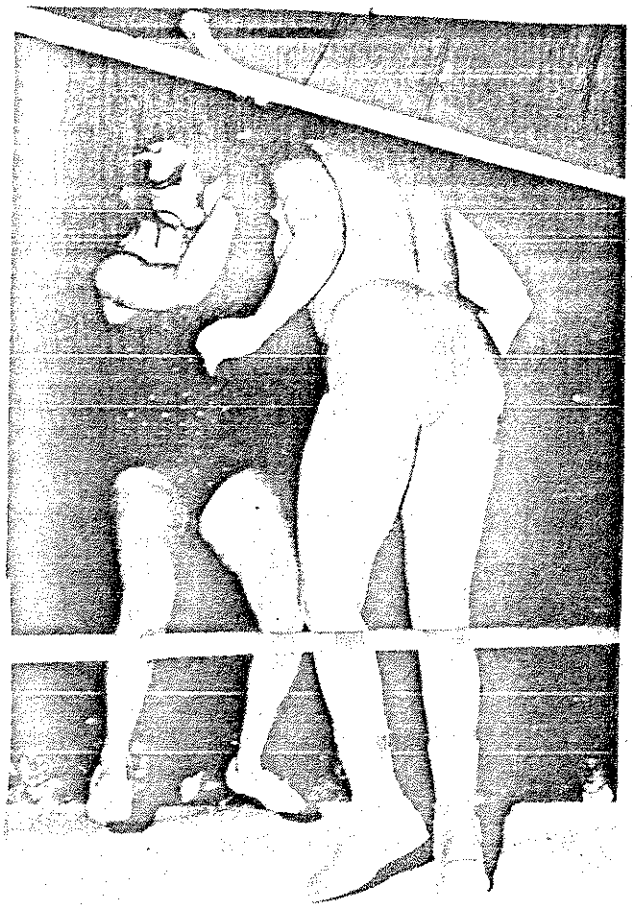
In each issue of MATMANIA, we rate the girl wrestlers of the United States on basis of their wins in the ring. Thus far, we have included the results of matches through April, beginning with February of this year. We've based the final ratings on variety of opposition, variety of locales in which wrestled and the general won/loss record.

Below are the ten top girls. As always, we wish to state that these are in no way offcial, but are only our ideas of the best around.

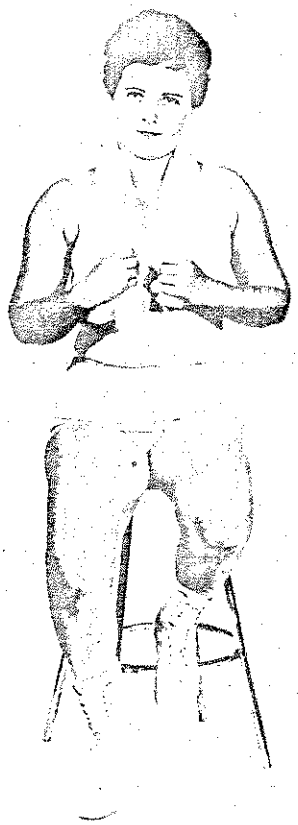
1, Fabulous Moolah
2, Princess Little Cloud
3, Perlie Behn
4, Penny Banner
5, Annette Palmer
6, Verne Bottoms
7, Donna Christanello
8, Sylvia Torres
9, Sherri Lee
10, Jean Antone

****

The biggest Gainer was Perlie Behn, who won six matches with no losses during the month of April. One of the top stars of California wrestling, she is one of the biggest favourites in that area. Little Cloud is the only major undefeated wrestler, having gone through seven matches without a loss. Even Moolah lost once on disqualification. Behn has six wins with no losses. Christanello dropped in the ratings due to a loss to Toni Rose, the wild-cat from Ohio.



FABULOUS MOLLAH in action



Jean Antone

HANDSOME JACK DONOVAN

One of the greatest, most crowd-pleasing wrestlers of the day is the tall raw-boned Jack Donovan. The curly, natural-blond star recently lost the U.S. title to Ronnie Etchison in Waterloo, Iowa on 9 Sept 67. Called Handsome Jack due to his boyish, impish look and his golden tresses, he has toured the entire country and world of wrestling and is currently feuding with another "looker" Handsome Harley Race. The two men had a contest recently that resembled spit-curls at 50 paces. One of the greatest matches in the history of Iowan wrestling, Donovan narrowly won the match.

A top performer throughout the States, Handsome Jack was trained by the great Carlos Rodriguez, who Donovan feels was the greatest of all time. The 236 pounder, from Hollywood, California, is a wild, exciting man who gives a hundred per cent action at all times.

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*****

His feuds with fellow junior heavyweight great, Danny Hodge, have filled the arenas of the Ozarks and mid-west as few other feuds in the history of the game. Handsome Jack won his coveted title from Pat O'Connor and is currently building up a challenge to try to win back the coveted title. This writer is guessing that he can do it, once he gets Etchison back in the ring.

A member of one of the most famous husband/wife teams in the history of wrestling, Donovan's favourite hold is the Hangman hold, in which he stretches the kneck and throat of his opponent by holding him across his back by the chin. A sure submission hold, Handsome Jack the originator of this particular version and it is used both by him and his wife. When they hit your area, make sure you go and see them, as you will always get you full money's worth.

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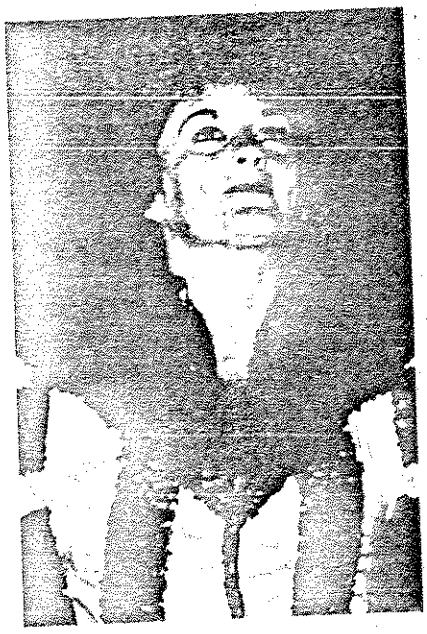


VERNE BOTTOMS

THE FOLLOWING IS A LETTER RECEIVED BY ME

I READ WITH INTEREST YOU AUGUST ISSUE OF MATMANIA AND THINK YOU DID AN EXCELLENT JOB WITH IT. EXCEPT FOR ONE GREAT MISTAKE AND THAT IS IN YOUR FEMALE RATINGS. YOU KNOW AND EVERYONE ELSE KNOWS THAT I AM THE WORLDS GREATEST LADY WRESTLER AND I DEMAND MY RIGHTFUL PLACE AT THE TOP OF YOUR RATINGS. I HAVE BEATEN ALL THE GIRLS YOU RATE ABOVE ME, AND KNOW I CAN DO IT AGAIN, ANY TIME, ANY PLACE. THEREFORE, I DEMAND THE PLACE THE EVERYONE KNOWS IS MINE AND MINE ALONE: THE NUMBER ONE SPOT. THANK YOU.

MISS VERNE BOTTOMS

I recently had the great pleasure of seeing the fabulous Igor in action for the first time in over a year. This man, the powerful, powerful man is one of the marvels of our day and age. Less than six feet tall, Igor weighs 265 pounds and not an ounce of it is fat; all of it is muscle. He is easily the strongest person in wrestling today, and he uses this strength to good advantage in his matches.

The bearded beauty from Poland was discovered by the fantastic Ivan Kalmikoff and he trained him in wrestling. "I did not try to make Igor a polished wrestler," Ivan siad, "as I know a man as strong and powerful as Igor would be able to beat anyone and everyone in the world. He is already a top challenger for world title honors and can beat them all."

Igor still wears his over-coat into the ring. Through Ivan, I asked him why. "This is my coat that I was wearing when Ivan first saw me in Poland. This is to remind me that I am only a man and just like all of the wonderful people who see me in the ring."

You have to see this phenominal man to really beleive him. Long black hair in complete dissarray, thick black beard, a hat perched on his head (pointed insists some of his opponents his long heavy over-coat almost to the floor, and his feet encased in old, battered sneakers. Such he is as he threads his way to the ring, completely surrounded by shrieking, thrilled fan

Along the way, he stops and kisses fans, repeating it when in the ring, except there he spashes one on both the referee and his opponent. Many other wrestlers claim that Igor does all the kissing due to stupidity, but I noted that most of the ones he kisses are beautiful young ladies, and that doesn't sound too stupid.

Once in the ring, Igor takes off that heavy, worn over-coat, and there he stands in his normal ring attire. "In Poland," Igor said through his ever-present mentour and guide, Ivan Kalmikoff, "it is very cold in the winter time. It is often 50 degrees below zero and we always wear long woolen under-wear." And that is what he wears in the ring - under his wrestlin tights !! Stretched to the breaking point over his massive chest, and down to knee length, he has his favourite set of long under-wear at all times.

Once the action gets started, Igor actually plays with his opponent, throwing him around almost at will. Then he claps his hands in glee, stomps his feet in a movement of complete, unadultorated happiness. He throws his hard-pressed opponent around by hand, by his hair, even by one little finger. His strength is truly a marvel to behold !!!

Igor . . . Terrible When Aroused!

This is Igor. The funniest, warmest, nicest man in wrestling today, but a deadly serious challenger to the wrestling greats.

****

Currently appearing in the AWA areas, he often tag teams with another popular man, the Crusher. He now travels with Steve Stanlee, one of the few people who can understand Polish outside of Ivan Kalmikoff. The two, Igor and Steve Stanlee, have worked a few times as tag partners, and I hopethey will again, as Igor always works better when getting som instruction in his native language.

Back to the team of the Crusher and Igor: they make the wildest, most wonderful tag combo in many a year. Both are strong as bears, both can wrestle with the best of them, and both are immensely popular with the fans. When they work together, and that is all too-seldom, make sure you see them in action, as they are wild, wild, wild.

RESULTS FROM THE AWA

26 Aug. OMAHA. Bob Ellis D Bobby Orton. Doug Gilbert W Larry Henning. Rene Goulet W Steve Bolus. Bob Geigel D Jack Pesek.
28 Aug. DAVENPORT. Igor W Henning and Harley Race. Al Kashey W Chris Markoff. Goulet W Stan Kowalski, the Big K. Rock Rogowski W George Gadaski.
1 Sept. MILWAUKEE. Dick the Bruiser W Johnny Powers. The Crusher W Moose Cholak. Chris Markoff W Reg Parks. Dale Lewis W Stan Kowalski. Rogowski W Kenny Jay.
9 Sept. INDIANAPOLIS. Joe Tomasso W Ringo. Angelo Poffo D Bob Boyer. Jack Lanza W Santiago Acosta. Mitsu Arakawa and Doctor Moto W Wilbur Snyder and Yukon Cholak.
11 Sept. DAVENPORT. Henning and Race W Igor and Crusher. Ramon Torres W Kowalski. Al Kashey D Goulet. Doctor X W Parks.
20 Sept. NEW ULM. Crusher W Race. Torres W Henning disq. Goulet W Kowalski. Kashey W Steve Druk.
21 Sept. ALBERT LEA. Crusher W Henning. Torres W Kowalski. Goulet W Kashey. Rogowski W Badaski.27 Sept. MANKATO. Crusher W Powers. Igor W Kowalski. Doctor X W Kashey. Torres W Markoff.

****

New faces in the area are Ramon Torres, the young Mexican super-star. Also the masked Doctor X. The masked man is absolutely, fantastically wild. He stands less than six feet tall and weighs in around 240 or so; he doesn't give his weight. Has a nose piece which protects his nose and hides a piece of metal inside his mask which he uses to good advantage throughout his match. Short, wide, looks solid and features the figure four leg lock. Any ideas?

Ramon Torres is one of my all-time favourites and it was a very pleasant surprise to run into him up here. He is just as good now as the last time I saw him, and he has rapidly become a big favourite with the fans here. His win over Markoff was one of the best matches I've seen in a long time. He is still the wild, impressionable, eager young star of a couple of years ago. In short, a top-flight pro in every way. Ramon, welcome officially to the Land of 10,000 lakes; we luvs ya.

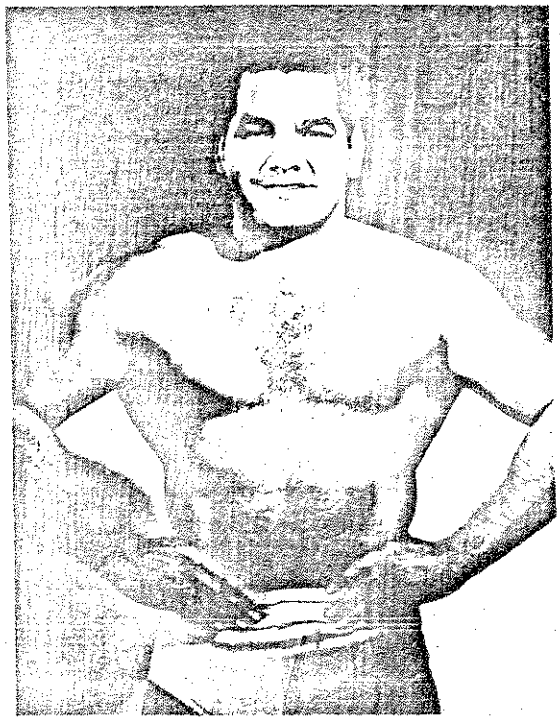
*****

This Rock Rogowski is just a young kid. From Reno, Nevada, his style is very much the same as Don Manukian; that is, he can be rough when needed but usually sticks pretty close to the rules. Short as wrestlers go, he weighs almost 270 pounds and is as solid as a rock, as his name would imply. I think the boy will really go places in the field of wrestling. Hims a goodie.

Johnny Powers; what can you say about the big guy? He is wild; he is fantastic; he is as welcome as a glass of water in the middle of the desert. He is almost as good as I've been saying he is all of these years. He richly deserves a place among the top 30 wrestlers of this day and age. Him is TURRIFIC.

****

JOHNNY POWERS



RAMON TORRES

Ramon Torres is one of the most famous wrestlers in the history of wrestling. With his brothers, Enrico and Al, he has toured the world and has, on two occassions, shared the world tag title. The first time was in California when Enrico and Ramon bea the mighty Sharpes Brothers, Ben and Mike, for the title. They also held the Pacific Coast title, beating Chris and John Tolos.

The second accassion when Ramon shared the world title was with Al in Florida. Known as the Californians, they beat Bobby Orton and the Great Malenko for the title.

Currently appearing in the Minneapolis/Mankato area, Ray just completed a most successful tour of the Atlanta area, where they had almost three solid months of complete sell-outs. Ramon and Enrico were feuding with the Andersons, Gene and Lars, and that accounted for the sell-outs.

A fabulous wrestler in every way, Ramon richly deserves his high spot in the hearts of every wrestling fan.

*****

Billed here as being from Barcelona, Spain, Ramon is an ex-bullfighter. The grace and beauty of his matches is a hold-over from those days when he threw a type of bull other than that thrown by this writer. Ramon moved to Acapulco, Mexico as a young man and later still to Fresno, California, where he now lives A former European title-holder, Torres is a far bette wrestler than we fans usually give him credit for. His wins over men like Tank Morgan, Louie Tillet, Paul Vachon, and the Andersons bare this out. Him is really and truly a goodie.

****

There have been few men in the world so capable of arousing the ire of wrestling fans as the mysterious man known as Doctor X. A sneak and a coward, he is fully able to beat any man he attacks from the rear. But just watch him run when faced with a fully alert opponent !!!

A cocky, egotistical man, he refuses to give out any information about himself. "If I tell these stupid jokers my weight or my height, they might be able to plan some sort of defense against my wonderful, marvelous ability. Actually, I feel sorry for these jokers arou here: I'm just too good for them."

During a TV match between champion Verne Gagne and Jack Pesek, this Masked Monster att-ached Verne from the back and knocked him out. On virtue of this rather dubious win, the Doctor claims the world title. It is just so much rubbish, but just try to convince the arrogant guy. Only a face to face match between Gagne and Doctor X will do the trick.

****

I tried to get a photo of this mad man to include in this issue of MYTHANIA. If you thi it is difficult to get his weight, you should try to get his picture !!! The guy is afraid giving anything away. He is every bit as cheap as he is dirty in the ring. And that is sa ing a lot. Already more hated than even the Dolly Sisters, Doctor X should go far in this wrestling world, if for the only reason that he is such a wild, SOB.

******

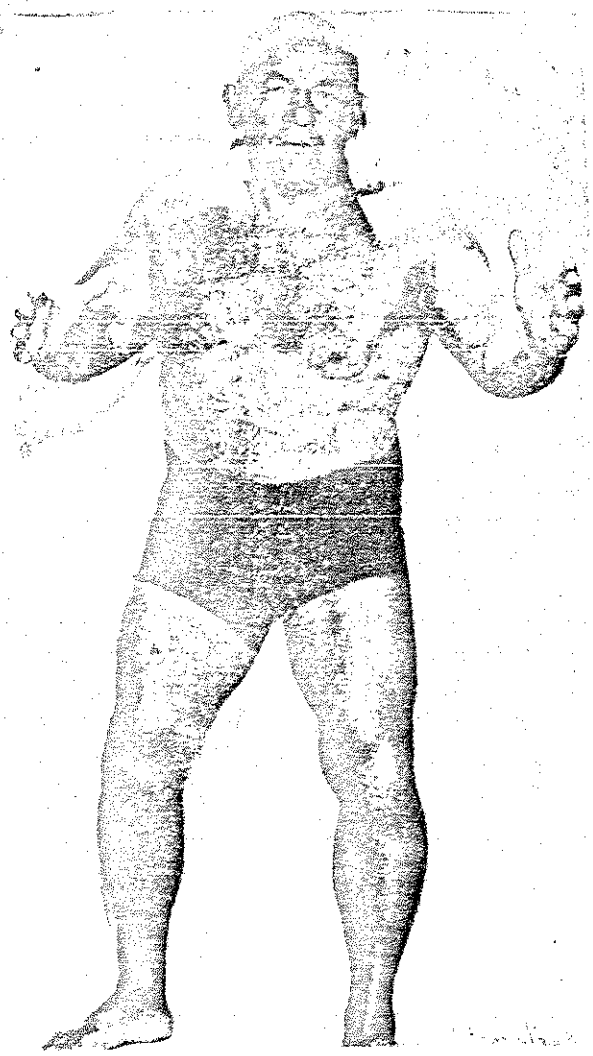
28 July. QUEBEC CITY. Hans Schmidt and Baron Von Raschke W Ed Carpentier and Enrico Torres. Jacques Rougeau W Harry Dunn. Gino Britto W Gerard Dugas. Eddie Auger W Alex Medina.
31 July. MONTREAL. Johnny Rougeau W Johnny Valentine. Schmidt and Von Raschke D Lorenzo Parente and Torres.
7 Aug. MONTREAL. Lionel Robert D Aldo Fernandez. Jac Rougeau and Britto W Matt Gillmore and Bill Terry. Valentine W Larry Moquin. Torres W Bulldog Brower. Carpentier and Johnny Rougeau W Maurice Vachon and Von Raschke.
12 Aug. CINCINNATI. Bobo Brazil and Fred Curry W Tokyo Joe and Bill Miller.
5 Sept. TUCSON. Roberto Rico and Ray Gordon W Marcel Firpo and Phil Brummett. Pepi Gomez W Gypsy Biviano. Kangaroo Karson W Yasahara. Arman Hussian W Don Kent. Luis Martinez W Gene Dubuque.

****

Late arrivals in the Montreal area include Bill and Dan Miller, the Shiek, Spiros Arion and the Destroyer. In the Southwest, Phil Brummett and Hussian are both new. Sorry about not having more news on these two areas, but.....

On 23 August,, at 3 A.M. Maurice, Mad Dog, Vachon was involved in a serious automobile accident near Quebec City. He will be out of action at least four months, according to the doctors. He received a very serious peliv injury, plus cuts and abrasions on face, and body. I hate to say anything about a man in such serious condition, but he had to have his complete face and body shaved for the doctors to care for him. Vachon without hair.....

******



Stanislaus Zbyszko, the 'Cossock"

This is very serious. On 22 September Stanislaus Zbyszko, the great wrestler of yesteryear, died. He was 88 years old at the time of his death, and had been living at Savannah, Missouri since his retirement from the ring.

Stanislaus had one of the longest careers in the history of wrestling. He was active for 45 years, and often wrestled when he was in his 70s. He held the world title on two occassions, winning a tourney over such men as Stecher, Caddock and Ed Lewis.

He practiced long hours on an accordion, claiming that it helped him develop his chest and ability to squeeze an opponent.

He is survived by his younger brother, Wladek, himself a better than average wrestler of the same era. Wladek, the junior by 12 years, was smaller than the 245 pound Stanislaus, but still held his own with most of the top-line men of the teens and 20s.

Bit by bit, the ranks of the old time greats are dwindling and with them go much of the glory of wrestlings all-time greatness.

*****

RESULTS FROM MICHIGAN AND OHIO

3 Aug. COLUMBUS. Bobo Brazil W Big Bad John. Bill Miller W Student. Oklahoma Kid and Darling Dagmar W Johnny Kace and Diamond Lil. Chief White Owl W Steve Stanlee.
10 Aug. COLUMBUS. Miller and Brazil W BB John and Student. Fred Curry W Bob Harmon. White Owl W Benny Jarrels. Joe Tomasso W Tom Jones.
17 Aug. COLUMBUS. Shiek NC White Owl. Brazil W Destroyer. Al Costello and Roy St. Clair W Bobby Shane and Calvin Pullins. Dan Miller D Okla Kid.
19 Aug. JACKSON TV. Bill Miller W Jones. Curry W Freddie Rogers. Brazil W BB JOhn. Dan Miller W Buddy James. Costello and St Clair W Bob Howard and Harman.
23 Aug. WINDSOR TV. Dan Miller W James. Lorenzo Parente W BB John. Shiek W Ted Lewin. Karl Kox W Jones. Costello and St. Clair W Rogers and Howard.
2 Sept. DETROIT. Shiek W Parente. Kox vs Lord Layton, dual disq. Brazil and Mark Lewin W Bill and Dan Miller disq. Costello and St. Clair W Johnny Rougeau and Gino Britto. Curry W Jones. Student W Shane. Louie Klein W Billy Goelz. Okla Kid W John.
6 Sept. MARION. Shiek NC Igor. Costello and St. Clair W White Owl and Shane. Curry W John. Brazil W Danny Miller.
7 Sept. TOLEDO. Student W Ivan Kalmikoff disq. Curry W John. Igor and Brazil NC Bill and Dan Miller. Costello and St. Calir W Shane and Okla Kid.

******

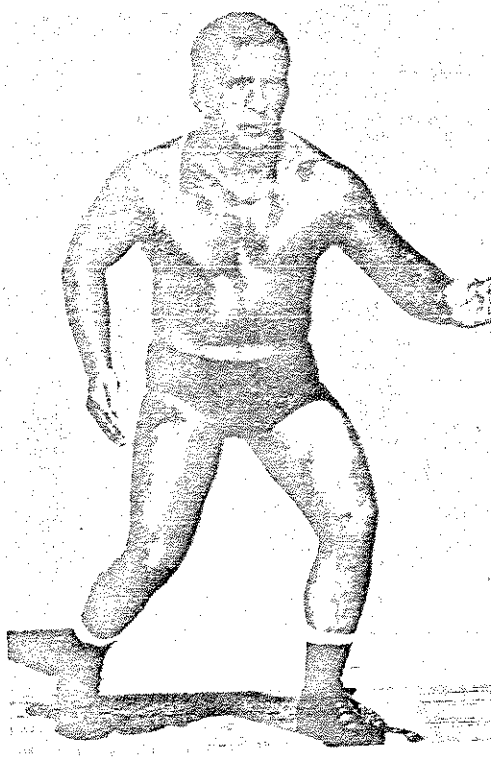
I know little about the Oklahoma Kid, other than the fact he is a large man, standing 6'5" tall and weighs 250 pounds. There is an Okla Kid rumored to be coming into Atlanta, but they say it is Bill Watts, who is shorter than the above, and weighs almost 50 pounds more. You can reduce one way, but not the other.

They have lost Igor and Kalmikoff since the above results were printed, so I imagine they have gotten some new faces in. Who, when, where, why I have no idea, but we will have the info in the next issue of (trumpets) MATMANIA.

With Columbus, Marion and Toledo all running on a weekly basis, the area haspicked up a great deal. We will be hainv(skip it) having a surprise for people of that area soon, but can give no clues. All I can say is that I like the increased activity and the additional men they are using.

Lorenzo Parente is a rough little Italian from St. Louis. He has held the Junior Heavyweight title and has beaten some of the best men of his weight in the world. Why he got the match with the Shiek, tho, I am not sure. It is difficult to follow the build up being given a man, unless you have the full results of the area. Currently wrestling in Atlanta I am sure Lou gave a good accounting of himself, even tho he lost. He has always been the type to keep puhhing in, forcing the fight all the way, and I am sure that the Shriek had his hands full with the wind-mill tactics of Parente. Him is a goodie, the few times I've seen him.

They seem to have some ofthe biggest men in wrestling in this area. Ladd is 6,9; Miller 6,5; Brazil, 6,6; Oklahoma Kid, 6,5; The Student, 6,3 or 4; Big Bad John, 6,5; I wonder how the Shiek (who is on the small side) manages to see over all their heads?



LORENZO PARENTE

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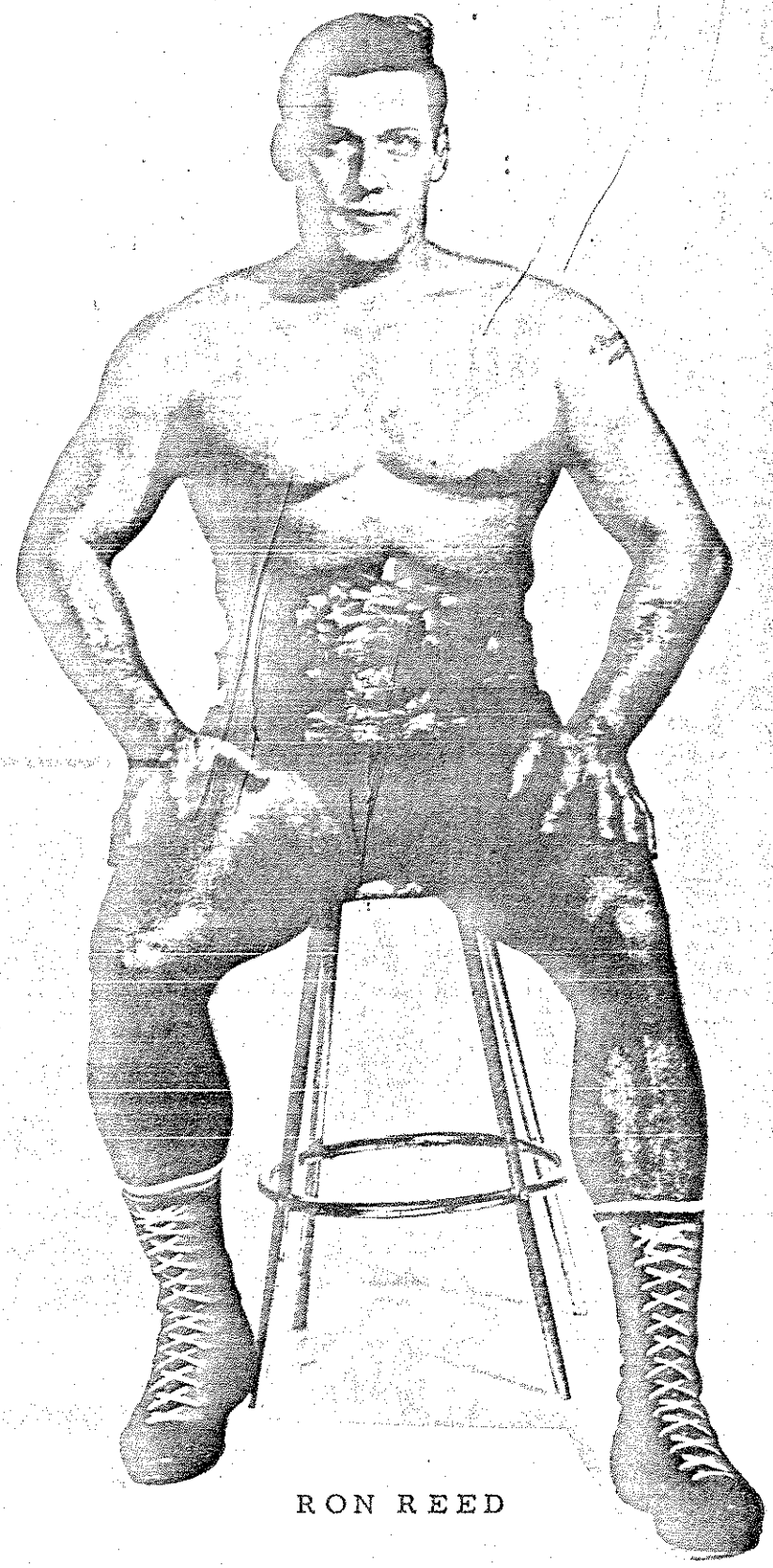
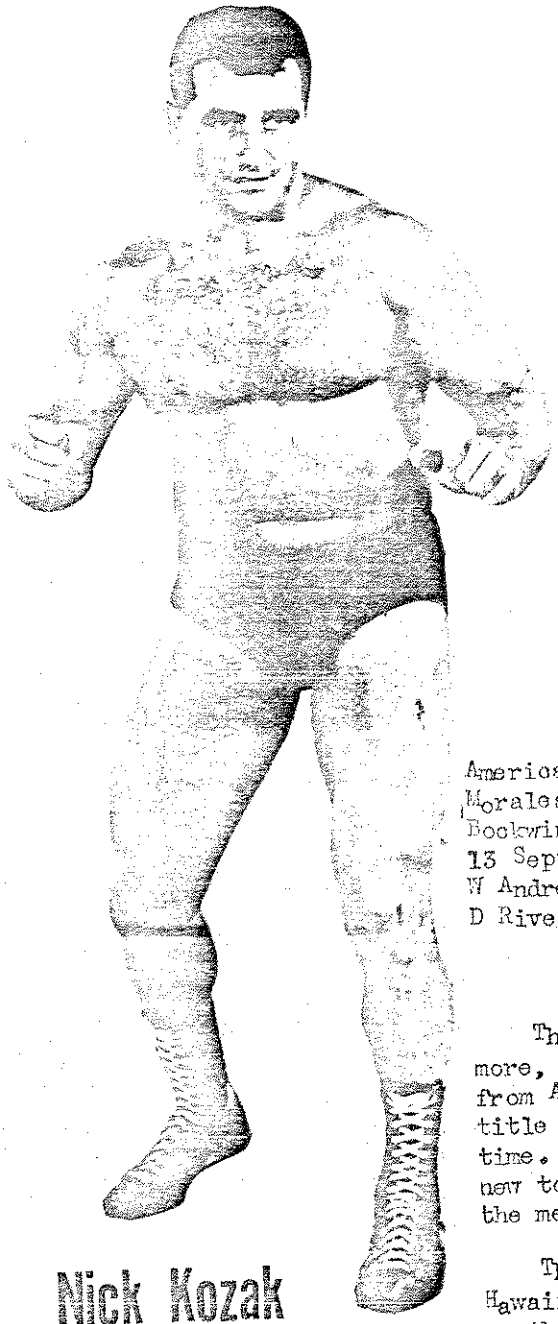


RON REED

TIM WOODS



Nick Kozak

RESULTS FROM CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII

23 Aug. SAN JOSE. Ray Stevens W Ciclon Negro. Pepper Gomez W Pat Patterson. Paul Diamond D Stan Neilson. Spoiler W Dave Cox.
23 Aug. HONOLULU. Rip Collins W Johnny Barend. Dutch Schultz W Jim Hady. Tank Morgan and Eric Froelich D Curtis Iaukea and Fujiwara. Nick Kozak W Bill Dromo.
26 Aug. FRESNO. Gomez and Pedro Morales W Stevens and Patterson. Negro W Spoiler. Don DeNucci W Tom Andrews. Don Duffy W Woody Farmer. Diamond W Johnny Karr.
29 Aug. FRESNO TV. Patterson W Farmer. Gomez W Duffy DeNucci and Dimond D Neilson and Karr.
30 Aug. LOS ANGELES TV. Buddy Austin W Karr. Freddie Blassie W Mister Moto. Morales and Vic Rivera W Hard-boiled Haggerty and Art Michalik. Karl Gotch W Don Savage. Sakaguchi W Johnny Vander. Nick Bockwinkle W Tony Nero.
6 Sept. LOS ANGELES TV. Gotch W Michalik. Austin W Jack Garfano. Morales and Rivera W Hangman and Nero. Blassie W Lou Whitson. Haggerty D Bockwinkle.
8 Sept. LOS ANGELES. Blassie W Moto in defense of his Americas title. Austin W Gotch in defense of the WWA title. Morales and Rivera W Spoiler and Haggerty. Mark Lewin W Andrews. Bockwinkle W Nero. Sakaguchi W Michalik.
13 Sept. LOS ANGELES TV. Tony Pugliese W Austin disq. Blassie W Andrews. Pugliese W Michalik. Tony Altemore W Farmer. Gotch D Rivera. Ricky Romero D Bockwinkle.

****

The only recent arrivals in California are Pugliese and Altemore, both in the Los Angeles area. Tony quickly won one match from Austin for the WWA title, and is scheduled to meet him in a title affair. Both men should be there for only short periods of time. Something tells me that they will be getting quite a few new top notch men there, as they are losing at least three of the men there now.

The major news from Hawaii is that Dutch Schultz won the Hawaiian title from Jim Hady. Jim is trying to get a re-match, so things should be looking up there.

The Executioners, recently in northern California rings, were Don Jardine and Frank Shields, both well known villians of the Northwest.

Tank Morgan really went over in Hawaii, as he wrestled clean for a change; a pleasant change. The boy was a better than average amateur and could still beat most of the men if he did it on skill rather than brute force.

Stevens and Patterson were in Hawaii recently and defeated the team of Froelich and Nick Kozak. When, tho, I am not sure. The Big Blondes are popular with many of the fans, altho they are villians normally.

****

THE KING RETURNS

On 10 August at Los Angels airport, a very special plane brought a passenger to that city. The man involved was one of the all time favourites of fans of that area and of the world of wrestling, the King, Freddie Blassie. Fred was to be the referee in a match between Mark Lewin and Iron Mike DiBiase at the Olympic Auditorium on 11 Aug. Thus it was that the all-time top attraction made his re-appearance in his adopted home.

The full story on Blassie begins several years before, when, as a young sailor, he made his debut as a pro wrestler in the historic Oceanside Park in Santa Monica. From those days when, as Sailor Blassie, he thrilled the fans with his speed and daring in the ring up to the present, he has become one of the most famous men in the world of wrestling. His records of achievements speak for themselves: Pacific Cost champion, co-holder of the world tag title, WWA champion, Southern Area champion. He has drawn record gates or near record gates in New York City, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Tokyo and all points in between.

This, tho, is a record of his accomplishments since his return. Freddie quickly received the nickname of "Pinkie" due to his attire while refereeing the Lewin/DiBiase match. Dressed entirely in pink clothes and with pinkish blond hair, he out-brawled Lewin and threw him from the ring. He ran up a winning streak beating men like Nick Bockwinkle, Mike DiBaise, Vic Rivera, Woody Farmer, Mister Moto, Lou Whitson, Pedro Morales and Tom Andrews, crowning this by meeting and beating Mark Lewin for the Americas title. Pinky Blassie, The King, demolished Mark and has since defended his title aganst all comers.

Without a doubt, King Blassie is one of the greatest wrestlers of the past 10 years or so. Ask his opponents and they will all agree that the King is still a most formidable foe.

****

Still in the peak of condition due to regular work-outs at the YMCA in Atlanta, Freddie is one of those men who seem to improve with age. In his early forties, the peak of a man's career as a wrestler, he should have many good years in front of him.

***

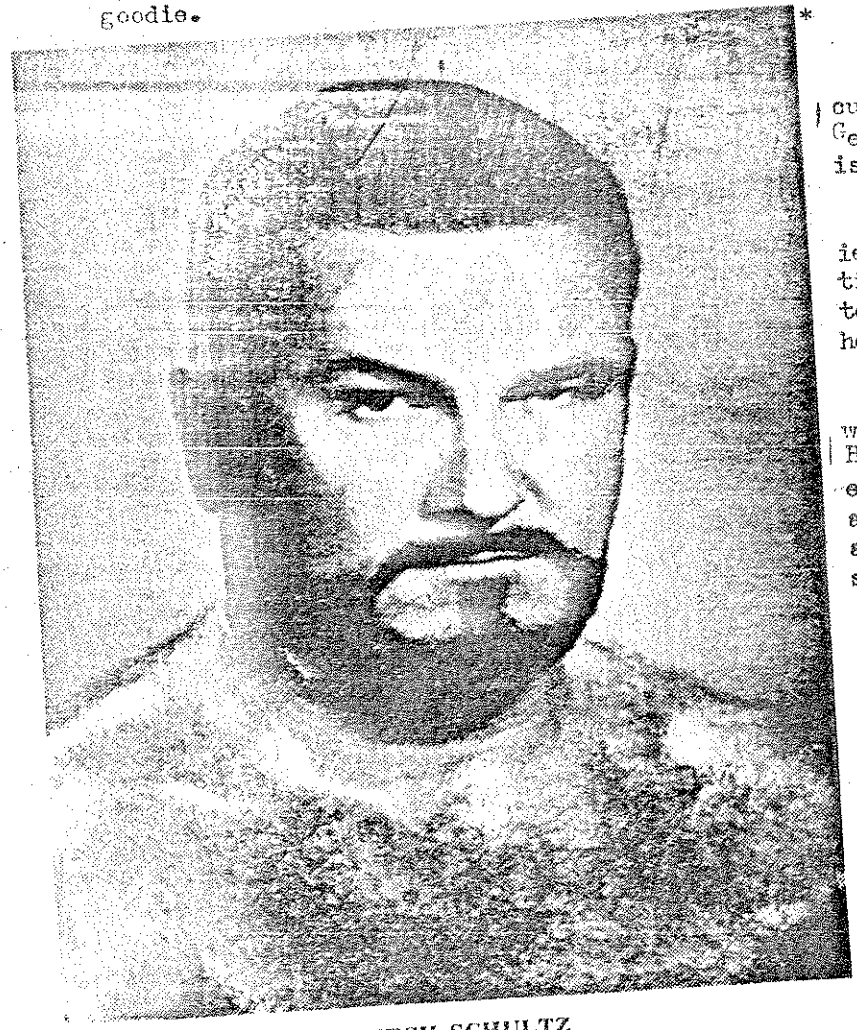
On the right is a picture of Blassie refereeing that match between Mark Lewin and Iron Mike DiBiase. Blassie really managed to out-maul and later out-wrestle one of the toughest opponents in the world of wrestling.

Someday, when you want a good laff, ask ole Sammartino what he thinks of Freddie Blassie. The two had some wild matches, during which Freddie managed to beat the WWWF champ on several occassions. There was little love lost between the two.

In years gone by, one of the most exciting men in the ring was the bulbous, Bouncing Benito Gardini. He seemed to be full of helium, as, when thrown into the ropes or onto the mat, he bounced around much as does a tennis ball. The nearest thing to this phenomina is the Blond Bomber from San Francisco, Ray Stevens. The naturally blond, curly haired young man literally bounces out of the ring whenever someone throws him into the corner turnbuckles. It is a sight that brin s the hearts of strong fans into their throats, as they are sure that the Pencil-knecked Stevens is going to land right in their laps.

The 240 pounder is currently tag teaming with another wild man in the ring, Pretty Pat Patterson. They are past title-holders and are the major challengers to the present champions, Pepper Gomez and Pedro Morales.

Well known in Australia, he held the title there for a long period, losing it to the great Billy White Wolf. He is the only person to hold a win over the Golden Greek, Spiros Arion. Ranked among the top 10 of the world today, Stevens warrants the rating as do few in the country today. His feuds with Pepper Gomez have filled the historic Cow Palace as few other matches in history. Ray is symbolic with the success of wrestling in the Bay area and California in geral. Hims is a goodie.



DUTCH SCHULTZ

*

The man on the immediate left is the current champion in Hawaii, having beaten Gentleman Jim Hady for the honors. His name is Dutch Schultz.

The man is also well known under a variety of aliases, but I am not going to mention them. Just for the heck of it, write to me and let me know the name under which he has wrestled in your area.

Clues: he is one of the tallest men in wrestling and weighs close to the 270 mark. He has tag teamed with several men, recently as a masked man. He is known in almost every section of the country and has appeared in both Canada and Japan and possibly Australia.

I love games.

******

I have one or two more pictures of this sort and may run them in future issues of MOTHANIA.

***

RESULTS FROM JAPAN

25 Aug. KORAKUEN HALL. Shohei Baba, Michiaki Yoshimura and Kanji Inoki W Jess Ortega, Billy White Wolf and Tony Altemore disq. Antonio Pugliese W Umanosuke Ueda. Kintaro Oki W Ray Bruns. Mitsu Hirai W Takachiho.
26 Aug. KANAGAWA Baba, Inoki and Oki W Ortega, Pugliese and Altemore.
27 Aug. MINOKAMO. Baba, Yoshimura and Ueda W Ortega, White Wolf and Burns. Inoki W Pugliese disq. Oki NC Altemore. Takachiho D Raizo Kojika.
30 Aug. TOMIOKA. Baba, Yoshimura and Oki W Ortega, Pugliese and Altemore. Inoki NC White Wolf. Burns W Ueda disq. Motoji Okuma W Kojika disq.
1 Sept. KORAKUEN HALL. Ortega and White Wolf W Yoshimura and Inoki. Baba W Pugliese. Oki W Altemore. Burns W Ueda disq. Takachiho W Kojika disq.
2 Sept. YOSHIKAWA. Baba, Yoshimura and Inoki W Ortega, White Wolf and Burns. Pugliese W Oki disq. Altemore W Ueda. Okuma W Takachoho.
3 Sept. SHINJO. Baba, Inoki and Oki W Ortega, White Wolf and Altemore. Pugliese W Ueda. Yoshimura W Burns.
5 Sept. AIZU WAKAMATSU. Baba, Yoshimura and Oki W Ortega, White Wolf and Burns. Inoki W Altemore. Pugliese W Takachiho.
6 Sept. KORIYAMA. Baba, Yoshimura and Inoki W Ortega, Pugliese and Altemore. Oki NC White Wolf. Burns W Kojika. Ueda W Takachiho. Okuma W Nagasawa.
8 Sept. KORAKUEN HALL. Baba W Ortega disq. Inoki and Oki W White Wolf and Pugliese. Yoshimura W Altemore. Burns W Hirai disq. Ueda W Kojika. Takachiho NC Fujii.
9 Sept. TOKYO. Baba and Inoki W Ortega and Pugliese. Yoshimura D White Wolf. Hirai NC Okuma. Takachiho W Kojika. Oki W Burns. Altemore W Ueda.
10 Sept. KANUMA. Baba, Yoshimura and Inoki W Ortega, White Wolf and Altemore. Pugliese W Hirai. Ueda W Burns.

******

和製ブルーザといわれる若手ホープの山本。「秋の陣ではひと暴れだ」と闘志満々だ

豆タンクこと馬場。馬力をいかした体当たりには爆発的なものがある。海外プロレス留学のパスポートをねらう一人

将来がたのしみな高千穂。若手最年少の十九歳だが、素質は若手グループずいーだ

28

The three young wrestlers on the left are (front top to bottom) Motetsu Yamamoto, Kantaro Hoshino and Takachiho. The first two are the men who appeared in the Memphis area as the Yamaha Brothers, with Yamamoto having been in Texas previously. Both are in their early 20s while Takachiho is only 19 or 20 years old.

****

The next series of matches in Japan will start on 22 September, running thru 2 November. The American wrestlers appearing will be Tarzan Tyler, Bill Watts, Art Neilson, Ricky Romero, Stan Pulaski, Eddie Auger, Red McNulty and Minji Shibuya, appearing with the Japanese wrestlers. The men from there will include Baba, Yoshimura, Inoki, Yoshinosato, Hirai, Ueda, Kintaro Oki (or as he is known there, Kim Ill), Takachiho, Hoshino, Yamamoto and others of the young wrestlers. They will have 33 bouts in all.

Included will be bouts in Okinawa. Just prior to the above series, Motoji Okuma and Raizo Kojika will come to the States to wrestle. They should be here by now, the 26th of September, but where, I do not know. When I find out, I will let everyone know.

As always, I would like to thank Yoshihisa Fukuzumi for his help in keeping up with the news from Japan. We would be lost without him.

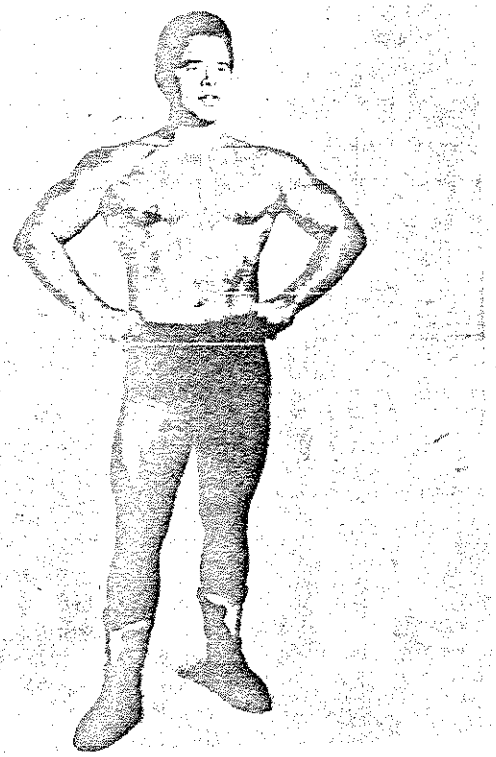
****

RESULTS FROM THE NORTHWEST

21 Aug. VANCOUVER. Chris and John Tolos W Don Leo Jonothan and Don McClarty. Abdullah, the Butcher W Rocky Johnson. Leo Burke W George "Crybaby" Cannon disq. Frank Shields W Nick Saldano. Roy McClarty W Jerry Monti.
24 Aug. TACOMA. Shields and R. McClarty W Red McNulty and Monti. Abdullah W Johnson. Rick Renaldo D Saldono. Chris Tolos D Don McClarty.
25 Aug. PORTLAND. Lonnie Mayne and Tony Borne W Red Osborne and Johnny Kostas for Northwest title. Crusher D Dean Higuchi. Bruce Kirk W Bob Sweetan. Masked Marvel W Bob Burns.
28 Aug. PORTLAND. Rip Collins D Mayne. Kostas W Marvel. Kirk W Sweetan. Borne D Higuchi. Crusher W Osborne.
31 Aug. TACOMA. Abdullah won battle royal. McNulty W Saldono. Shields W Renaldo. Jonothan W Cannon. Johnson D Chris Tolos.
1 Sept. PORTLAND. Kostas W Borne. Sandy Barr W Burns. Bobby Nichols W Marvel disq. Higuchi D Mayne. Crusher W Kirk.
2 Sept. SEATTLE. Tony Orford D Renaldo. Shields D Cannon. Burke W McNulty. Jose Quintero W Saldono. Jerry Graham W Roy McClarty. Chris and John Tolos W Don McClarty and Johnson. Jonothan W Abdullah disq.
2 Sept. SEATTLE TV. John Tolos W Burke. Abdullah W Ike Hanson. Jonothan W McNulty. Shields W Saldano.
4 Sept. VANCOUVER. Abdullah W John Tolos. Cannon, McNulty and Quintero W Don McClarty, Shields and Johnson. Graham W Roy McClarty. Chris Tolos D Burke.
9 Sept. SEATTLE TV. Burke W Renadlo. Graham W Roy again. Abdullah NC Chris Tolos. Frank Shields W Jose Quintero.

****

Two new faces in the area, for a pleasant change; Jose Quintero, the tough little Cuban by way of Minneapolis, and Doctor Jerry Graham, the mammoth heavyweight from Phoenix, Arizona. Jose, billed as being an ex-soldeir for Fidel Castro, is another of the young men coming up and is a top contedor for the junior heavyweight honors. A match between him and champion, Danny Hodge, would be a pleasure to watch; mainly because Danny would be like a steam-roller and roll right over him.



COWBOY BRUCE KIRK

Bruce Kirk, the young star pictured on the left, is from Phoenix, as is Graham. Trained by the great Cowboy Carlson, he has wrestled throughout the country and is most well-known in the Southwest and in the Ozarks region. He recently completed a tour of Canada, where he beat some of the best men around that area. A coming star, he should go far in his chosen profession.

The Crusher, mentioned above in the results, is a 300 pounder, and is probably Stan Stasiak, altho I am not completely sure. I do know that Rip Collins mentioned above, is the same as the Collins in Hawaii. A 270 pounder, he is a hero in the Portland area, and a villian elsewhere. Another man making the switch is Frank Shields. Now becoming a hero, he is winning many friends with his slam-bang style of wrestling.

****

Dean Higuchi is possibly the most muscular and well developed man in the field of wrestling. He and Igor would make an exceptional team, as both are built like Elizabeth Taylor, only different. Lets get him out here, okay Wally?

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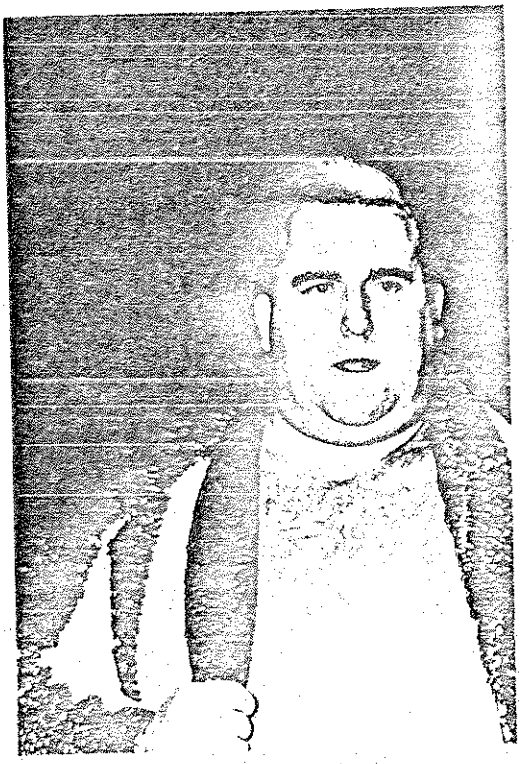


DR. JERRY GRAHAM

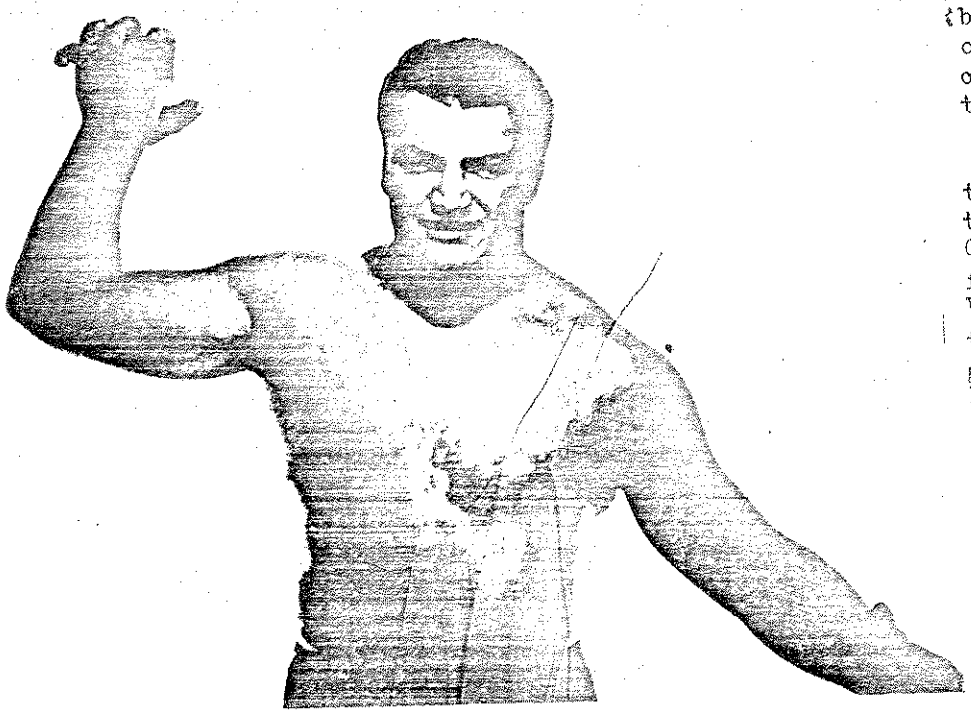
The top new star to hit the Northwest is also the biggest man in the area, Doctor Jerry Graham. The huge Phoenix, Arizona star has gone on a rigourous diet to hold his weight down, and is down to a very svelte 400 pounds. The blond star is rapidly acquiring the nickname of "Pregnant Elephant" due to his thunderous ring action in that area.

The oldest of the three wrestling brothers, Jerry left the Atlanta area after having lost a match to Enrico Torres, the stylish Mexican matster. A welcome addition to the Northwest, he has accepted the thanks of the local fans for having taught Abdullah, the Buther all of the "nicities" of wrestling. Jerry is also managing the Arabian star and will more than likely be tag teaming with him soon. A bout of those two versus Chris and John Tolos should really pack the fans in, as the Tolos' are among the most popular people in the world when going against two top "Hates" as Abdullah and Graham.

One of the all-time greats in wrestling, Jerry has drawn some of the largest crowds in the history of the game and should do the same in Seattle, Vancouver and the other cities of the area.

******

When popularity is mentioned in the Northwest, the fans automatically think of the gian Mormon from Hurrican, Utah, Don Leo Jonothan. The huge, 6'6", 305 pounder was the taught wrestling by his famous father, Brother Jonothan and has advenced far in his chosen field. His favourite hold is the Mormon Scychle hold, where he picks up the luck-less foe by the feet and swings them around causing them to become completely dizzy. Or dizzier than usual, that is.



DON LEO JONATHAN

He haswins over most of the top names in the world of wrestling and has held champion, Gene Kiniski is several hard-faught draws. Living now in Vancouver, the likable star is the home-town hero-made good for all of the fans of the Land of Tall Timbers.

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Rumor has it that borther Luke may be joining Jerry in the Northwest soon. If this is so, the fans will really be in for some wild matches.

The current WWWF champion is Bruno Sammartino. His major challenger is the huge, powerful Gorilla Monsoon. The two have met on several occassions and each and every bout have been among the roughest and wildest in the history of East Coast wrestling.

Bruno, a 270 pound Italian, is the most popular man in that area. Standing well over 6 f feet tall, he features the bear hug and full nelson as his favourite holds. A powerfully built strongman, he uses this great strength in all of his matches. A former circus strongman, he really draws in the fansnwho like their wrestling rough and ready.

Mongoon, the 400 pound, 6'3" tall Manchurian, is also a man of great strength, but he relies on the age-old sciences of the Orient to win his matches. He features karate, judo and other assorted mayhem, and is not above using his great bulk to win a match or two. He simply spashes down on the luck-less opponent and more than one man had to be helped out of the ring on a stretcher after such a finish.

There is absolutely no love lost between the two powerfully built men and they have met several times within the past month or so. The fans can always be sure of seeing a wild, action packed match when they get together. The SRO only sign always goes out, as the fans pour into the arenas to see the two behomoths go at it. Sammartino, who often tag teams with his cousin, Antonio Pugliese, or with the Golden Greek, Spiros Arion, have met Monsoon and one of his favourite tag partners on more than one occassion. The Gorilla usually prefers a man he refers to as "my type of man", meaning someone like Tanaka or Mortier, a rough, tough man. Managed by the ex-light heavy champ, Red Berry, Gorilla Monsoon can really wrestle when he puts his mind to it, but prefers using various assorted types of mayhem.

If these two men ever wrestle each other again, and I think they will, do make sure you go out to see them, as you will be completely assured of seeing a hundred percent action match.

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BRUNO SAMMARTINO

GORILLA MONSOON

Two of the most well known men in wrestling today are the stars at the bottom of the page. Eduardo Carpentier and Tarzan Zorro alias Hans Mortier. Both men were trained in the basic skills of wrestling in Europe and had their first matches while there. They often faced each other while young men and have maintained a feud over the years, resuming it when together. Both men have covered the world of wrestling. Zorro recently completed a tour which took him thru the South Pacific and Japan, stopping for a short visit before coming into the East Coast. Carpentier also returned from a long tour, which took him to his native France, and thru Great Britain.

Now working in the WWWF area, both have rapidly become top stars there. Ed due to his brilliant workmanship in the air and because of his general, all-around ability. Mortier due to his ability to withstand punishment and still be able to beat a man when a mistake is made on the part of his opponent. The two men will undoubtedly resume their feud while in the East, and may take it up to Montreal, an area both men feel to be a second home for them and their families. Ed, especially, is always fondly remembered there because of his wins over Maurice "Mad Dog" Vachon. Zorra, too, is well-remembered, due to his winning over such villians as Fred Atkins and Killer Kowalski.

What will happen when these two top pros get together is anyones guess. There is little love lost between them, and both men go all out to win. Fans are in for some wild, matches; that is for sure. When they get together in your area, be sure to go and see them.

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While space allows, I wonder what happened to young Eddie Morro? He was working and traveling with Zorra/Mortier until recently but seems to have disappeared. If someone happens to know, I would appreciate the information. Thank you.

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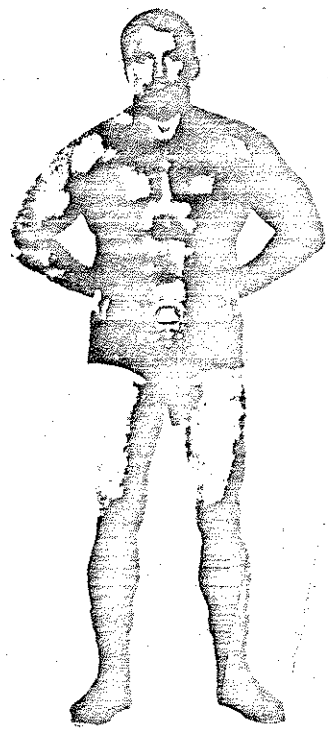
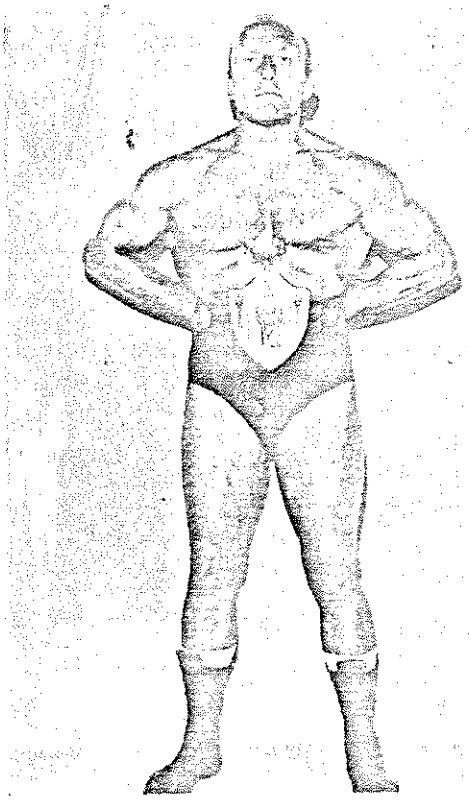
ED CARPENTIER



TARZAN ZORRA



RESULTS OF THE WWWF

26 Aug. BALTIMORE. Angelo Savoldi W Frank Hickey. Arnold Skaaland D Sam Rubin. Lou Albano W Bob Taylor. Hans Mortier W Smasher Sloan. Gullitine Gordon W Miguel Perez. Bruno Sammartino W Proffessor Tanaka. Bill Miller, Baron Scicluna and Gorilla Monsoon D Spiros Arion, Bobo Brazil and Ed Carpentier.
26 Aug. PITTSBURGH TV. John DeFazio W Frank Durso. George Steele W Al Hayes. Batman W Jim Grahmire. Luke Graham W Bill Terry. Frank Holtz D Hurricane Hunt.
31 Aug. WASHINGTON TV. Graham W Jack Davis. Skaaland W Hickey. Mortier W John Rodz. Albano W Tomas Marin. Gordon D Perez. Tanaka W Roger Dupree. Sloan W Pete Sanchez.
2 Sept. BALTIMORE TV. Miller W Jack Ostermiller. Monsoon W Sanchez and Dewey Robertson. Pugliese W Altemore. Arion W Albano. These are taped from Philadelphia.
7 Sept. WASHINGTON TV. Graham W Davis. Rodz W Sanchez. Mortier W Sloan. Arion W Gordon. Tanaka W Skaaland. Perez W Albano.
9 Sept. BALTIMORE TV. Miller W Skaaland. Albano and Altemore W Sanchez and Arman Hussian Parisi W Ostermiller.
9 Sept. BOSTON. Sammartino W Monsoon. remember this match. Tanaka W Carpentier disq. Arion W Gordon. Miller W Graham. Mortier W Sloan. Perez W Albano. Scicluna W Skaaland. Ricki Sexton W Rodz.
16 Sept. PHILADELPHIA. Monsoon and Tanaka W Samartino and Carpentier disq. Arion D Mortier. Gordon W Skaaland. Scicluna W Sloan. Albano D Sanchez.

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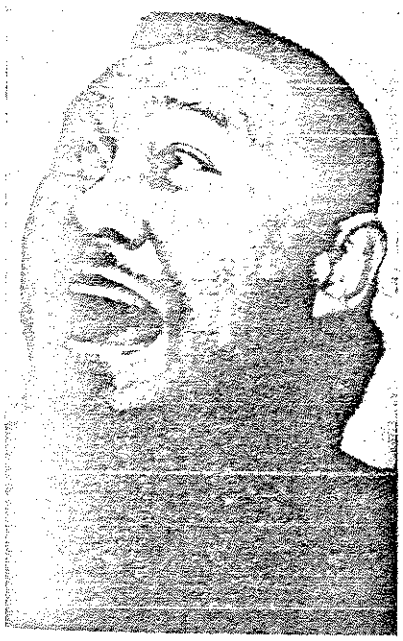
Two different people told me that the match in Boston between Sammartino and Monsoon was the bloodiest they had ever seen. Both told me that the man bleeding put up the best fight of his career and should have had the sense to quit, but wouldn't; he kept coming in and forcing the fight. They both also told me that the other man continued to hammer that bleeding eyes, nose and forehead, completely forgetting about science, but relying strictly and completely on brute force. Both people told me that the fans were sick with the amount of blood and even cheered the bleeding man because of his courage and his will to continue no matter what. Both told me that the fans booed the other person because of his continuous pounding of the opponent.

The bleeder was Monsoon; he got the cheers because of his trying to make a fight out of it even tho he could not see. The vicious guy who kept pounding and beating him across the head was Sammartino. The two fans who told me about the match are both Bruno fans, and even they said that he was nothing but a Brute in the ring that night.



PROFESSOR TANAKA

The first person who asks me if I want catsup on my hamburgers;;;;;;

On the left is Proffesor Tanaka, the man many people believe to be the best in the world today. The 280 pounder is well versed in karate, judo and the plain, old-fashined right to the jaw. Tough as an old piece of shoe leather, the young Japanese star is the heir apparent of such top flight "love to hate" men as Moto, Shibuya, and Arakawa. He has already beaten many top flight opponents, including Doru Funk Jr, Terry Funk, Ricky Romero, Tony Parisi, Arman Hussian, and Pepper Martin. Tag teaming with Monsoon at present, they are the major challengers to the WWWF tag crown, held by Parisi and Arion.

A world travler, he has shown his wares in Canada, Australia and throughout the United States. The kid is wild, and one of the few legitimate stars in Fat Man's Paradise.

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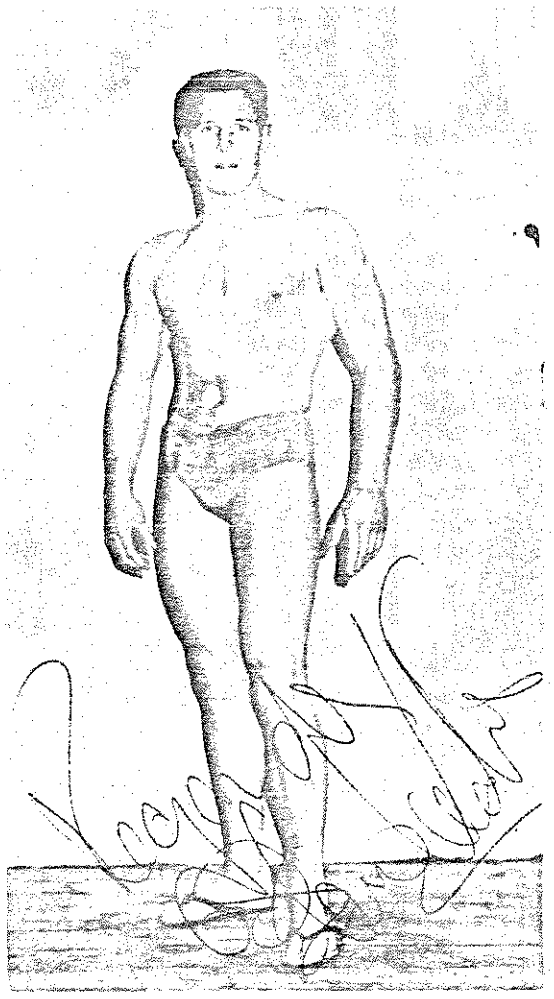

Steve Veidor is one of the top young heavyweight stars now active in British wrestling. He became a pro in his early 20s abd hads rapidly become one of the most popular men in that country. Trained by the great Yorkshireman, Eric Sands, the 6 foot, 210 pounder originally wrestled under his real name, Steve Bell, but prefers the surname Veidor, which is his Austrian grandmothers name. A former air-force man, the blond crew-cut star has a striking resemblance to actor, Laurence Harvey.

Such men as Gwynn Davies, Monty Swann, Billy Robinson and Joe Cornelius rate Veidor as one of the coming stars in the heavyweight ranks. He has already beaten such top men as Johnny Allan, Cornelius, Danny Lynch, Al Hayes, John Cox, Billy Joyce and Oscar Verdu.

A popular man with the ladies, Steve now resides in Ellesmore Port in southern England, close to another top favourite, Brian Maxine. Often rumored to making a trip to these shores, Steve Veidor would undoubtedly be as big a favourite here as in his natvie land.

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RESULTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN

1 Aug. WOLVERHAMPTON. Nagasaki KO Matu. Les Kellett W Spencer Churchill. Bill Howes W Yuri Borienko. Geoff Portz W Oscar Verdu.
1 Aug. GIULFORD. Tibor Szakacs W Johnny Yearsley. Alan Sergeant W Adrian Street. Mike Marino D Pat Barrett. Barry Camon W Dick Conlon.
1 Aug. CROYDON. Jackie Pallo W Tony Rocca. Bob Kirkwood W Wildman disq. Dave Morgan D Don Stedman. Len Hurst W Mick McMichael. Tony Borg W Ted Bailey.
1 Aug. EDINBURGH. Jim Breaks D Mike Eagers. Griffin W Lee Sharron disq. St Clairs W Chic Purvey and Robbie Clarke.
1 Aug. HEMEL HEMPSTEAD. Peter Rann W Reg Trood. Rudge W Steve Haggetty disq. Rann W Rudge. Gordon Nelson KO Albert Wall. Eddie Capelli W Roger Green.
2 Aug. SOUTHPORT. Billy Robinson W Cox. Gene Rowlands W Matu. White Eagles W Black Diamonds.
2 Aug. EASTBOURNE. Nelson W Wall. Sergeant W McMichael. Kirkwood D Yearsley. Tony Costas W Plmaer. Try Palmer.
3 Aug. WESTBURY. Veidor W Yearsley. Al Hayes KO Wildman. Brian Maxine KO Green. Dave Morgan D Pasquale Salvo.
3 Aug. WIMBLEDON. Rann W Ken Joyce. Joe Cornelius D Kiwi Kingston. Ron Oakley W Zoltan Boscik. Costas W Bailey.
3 Aug. WALTHAMSTOW. Nelson W Marino. Wall D Verdu. Sergeant KO Bernard Murray. Capelli W McMichael.
3 Aug. CLACTON. Pallo W Penzekoff. T. Szakacs KO Borinko. Haggetty W Peter Szakacs. P. Szakacs KO Conlon.
4 Aug. LIVERPOOL. Kellett W Howes. Jim Hussey NC Portz. John Cox W Alf Cadman. Billy Blackfoot W Ian Gilmoure.
4 Aug. ROCHESTER. Bruno Elrington W Josef Zaranoff. T Szakacs W Lynch. Szakacs W Elrington. Miquet D Jon Cortez. Czeslaw W Clayton Thomson.
4 Aug. BOLTON. White Eagles W Dallas Bros. Matu W Rowlands. Bartelli W Johnny Allan. Al Woods W Monty Swann.
5 Aug. NEWCASTLE. Wall KO Masambula. Eagers W Gilmoure. Portz W Mike Marino. Mick McMichael W Ted Hannon.
5 Aug. BELLE VUE. Royal and Faulkner W Purvey and Preston. Lees W Billy Joyce disq. Roy Bull Davis KO Bryson. Roy St. Clair W Churchill.

5 Aug. BELLE VUE. Royal and Faulkner W Purvey and Preston, goofed, didn't I?
6 Aug. BRIGHTON. Nelson W Pat Barrett. Rocca W Trood. Elrington KO Zaranoff. Peter Szakacs KO Tiger Ryan. Borg Bros W Con lon and Stefan Milla.
7 Aug. HASTINGS. Elrington W Veidor. Street D P. Szakacs. Lindy Caulder D Yearsley. Costas W Ray McGuire.
7 Aug. YARMOUTH. Robinson W Verdu. Penzekoff D Ken Joyce. Bobby Barnes K$_O$ Hurst. Wall KO Wildman.
7 Aug. WESTON. Tony Charles W Logan disq. Borienko KO Kirkwood. Maxine D Rudge. Oakley KO Green.
7 Aug. WEMBLEY. Morgan W Charlie Fisher. Czeslaw W Al Fontayne. Czeslaw W Morgan. Capelli D Jon Cortez. Nelson W Tibor Szakacs.
7 Aug. BIRMINGHAM. Davies W Zaranoff. Billy Joyce W Haggetty. Black Diamonds W Zimba and Kwango. Alan Miquet W Benny Ginsberg.
8 Aug. CROYDON. Verdu D Barrett. Wayne Bridges W Yearsley. Boscik KO McGuire. Len Hurst W Capelli. Kwango W Logan disq.
8 Aug. EDINBURGH. Kellett W Eagles. Eagers W Sergeant. McMichael W Ted Heath. Joe Keegan NC Kilby.
9 Aug. WATFORD. Robinson W Verdu. Rann W Kwango. Caulder D Ron Fury. O'Shea W Roger Diprose.
9 Aug. EASTBOURNE. Borgs W Street and Barnes disq. Morgan W Garfield. Grant W Milla. P. Szakacs KO McGuire.
9 Aug. YARMOUTH. Kellett D Logan. Nelson W Barrett. Charlie Fisher KO Tug Holton. Ron Oakley W Jack Quaseck.
10 Aug. BOURNEMOUTH. Charles KO Czeslaw. T. Szakacs W Elrington. Boscik D Jon Cortes. Brian Maxine KO Dick Conlon.
10 Aug. WIMBLEDON. Veidor W Borienko. Salvo KO McGuire. Doug Joyce KO Bridges. Albert Wall W Al Hayes.
10 Aug. SOUTHAMPTON. Pat Barrett W Mel Roach. Billy Robinson KO Johnny Yearsley. Bobby Barnes D Len Hurst.
11 Aug. STAFFORD. Vic Faulkner W Alan Sergeant. Bert Royal W Jackie Pallo disq. Gilmour W James. Clayton Thomson W Jud Harris.
11 Aug. LIVERPOOL. Black Diamonds W Hannon and Purvey. Wall W Rowlands. Davies W Jasef Zaranoff. Mike Dallas W Melwyn Riss.
12 Aug. NEWCASTLE. Robinson D Nagasaki. Pallo KO Peter Preston. Griffin W Ron Davies. Royal and Faulkner W Masambula and Don Branch.
12 Aug. BELLE VUE. Portz W Veidor. Sergeant W Eagers. Jim Hussey NC Cox. Clayton Thomson W Fallon.
13 Aug. ILFRACOMBE. Charles W Haggetty. P. Szakacs W Green. Ignatio Borg D Boscik. Kirkwood KO Wildman.
14 Aug. HASTINGS. Czeslaw W Wildman disq. Rocca KO Holton. Murray W Milla. Billy Joyce W Oscar Verdu disq.
14 Aug. YARMOUTH. Yearsley W Kirkwood. Miquet D Boscik. Rudge W Trood. Kwango and Zimba W Haggetty and Al Fontayne.
15 Aug. HEMEL HEMPSTEAD. Thomson W Doug Joyce disq. Verdu W Zaranoff. Billy Joyce W Charlie Fisher. McMichael D Jon Cortez.
15 Aug. WOLVERHAMPTON. Robinson W T. Szakacs. Bartelli W Charles. Hussey W Masambula. Royal and Faulkner W Foley and Colin Joynson.
16 Aug. YARMOUTH. Zaranoff KO Billy Joyce. Brian Trevors D Bill Torontos. Rann W Maxine. St Clair Bros W Doug and Ken Joyce.
16 Aug. EASTBOURNE. Mick McManus W Barry Cannon. Logan KO Kirkwood. Capelli W Green. Boscik W Tony Costas.
17 Aug. WIMBLEDON. Logan W Lynch disq. Torontos KO Morgan. Caulder W Green. Tony Costas NC Zoltan Boscik.
17 Aug. LEAMINGTON SPA. Pallo W Kwango. Scorpion KO Chic Purvey. Johnny Allan NC Bryson. Ramsden D James.
17 Aug. CLACTON. Barrett W Billy Joyce. Zaranoff W Borienko. Reg Trood D Spencer Churchill. Barnes W Palmer.
18 Aug. BOLTON. Royal and Faulkner W Black Diamonds. Hussey W Charles. Joynson W Joe Keegan. Riss W Jeff Kaye.

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BRITISH RATINGS

In each issue of MATMANIA, we rate the men of Great Britain on basis of their won/loss records. As before, there will be three sections, by weight. The heavyweights, including the mid-heavyweights, the middleweights, including the light-heavys, and the midd, oops, welter weights and lightweights together.

Heavyweights:

1, Billy Robinson, British and European champion
2, Gordon Nelson, the Outlaw
3, Count Bartelli
4, Tibor Szakacs
5, Dennis Mitchell
6, Nagasaki
7, Billy Joyce, the ex-champion
8, Albert Wall
9, Ricki Starr
10, Mike Marino

Middleweights

1, Clayton Thomson, British champion
2, Tony Charles, Welsh lightweight and middleweight champion
3, Bert Royal, the ex-British champion
4, Vic Faulkner, European champion
5, Jackie Pallo
6, Peter Rann
7, Mick McManus, Southern area champion
8, Dave Morgan
9, Spencer Churchill
10, Ken Joyce

Welter and Lightweights

1, Alan Sergeant, British welter champion
2, George Kidd, world lightweight champion
3, Alan Miquet, British lightweight champion
4, Brian Maxine
5, Jim Breaks, ex-British champion
6, Alan Colbeck, European welter champion
7, Peter Szakacs
8, Eddie Capelli
9, Johnny Williams, Welsh welter and lightweight champion
10, Jack Dempsey

The major changes in the heavyweight section is the drop of Billy Joyce, who has been losing quite a few matches of late, including Gwynn Davies, Steve Veidor and Josef Kovacs. Mike Marino replaced Davies in the reatings, as Gwynn has been largely inactive of late.

In the middleweight section, we've rated Dave Morgan for the first time. The light-heavyweight star has wins over such men as Ivan Penzekoff, Bob Kirkwood, Al Fontayne, Kalman Gaston, Tiger Ryan and Ezzard Hart. He moved into 8th place, dropping both Churchill and Joyce, and replacing the Scorpion.

Johnny Williams, the Welsh champion, has been losing quite a few matches of late, and thus has dropped in the ratings. Peter Szakacs has been the big winner of the lower ranks and has moved up in Williams' place. Peter, Johnny and Capelli all have pretty much the same record and it is difficult to choose between them as a result. Dempsey, with only a handful of matches in six months, retians his rating only due to the absence of men with a better record.

In each issue of MATMANIA, we rate the men of the wrestling world on basis of popularity and its reverse, unpopularity. All the fans send me their lists of the five people the like the most and hate the most; I add them to the lists previously received, and get the final figures. The response thus far has been tremendous, and I am sure it will continue to be.

Lets list them, then make comments.

MOST POPULAR

1, Assassins, 123 points
2, Don Carson, 106 points
3, Gorgeous George, 57 points
4, George Weaver, 55 points
5, Ivan Kalmikoff, 48 points
6, George Becker, 48 points
7, Igor, 37 points
8, Rip Carson, 36 points
9, Tex McKenzie, 30 points
10, Amazing Zuma, 30 points

MOST HATED

1, Ken Lucas, 102 points
2, Assassins, 100 points
3, Karl Kox, 45 points
4, Larry Hamilton, 42 points
5, Bobby Fields, 38 points
6, Infernos, 38 points
7, Bogni, Lubich and O'Dell, 34 points
8, Gene and Lars Anderson, 30 points
9, Mummy, 30 points
10, Nikita Mulkovitch, 21 points

****

The biggest news, of courge, is the tremendous votes received by the Assassins and by Don Carson as the most popular. Both are villians, but are popular with large percentage of the fans. Gorgeous George, a hero, brings up third place, also gaining a large number of points or votes.

By the same virtue, Ken Lucas, a hero, seems to be disliked by many people and is the largest single drawer of votes for the most hated. Shortly behind is the Assassins, rated number one as the most popular.

Again, there has been a great shuffling of the men listed in these ratings. This is due mainly to the work done by various fan clubs, notably the Becker/Weaver club and by the clubs for the Assassins, Carson and George. They have all been active and have pushed other popular men to the rear.

There is a total of 123 men listed as the most popular in all the various lists received by me thus far. In the most hated side, there are only 89. A lot of fans like their wrestling on the ruff side, it seems, as men like Monsoon, Powers, The Shiek, Stevens, Pat Patterson and other such villians have all received a large number of votes.

The rules for this, once again, are simple; send me your lists of five most popular men and the five you hate the most. Send me the lists as often as you like; even every day if desired. You can list the same man two or more times on any list and it will count. If you are a member of one of the clubs behind us on this drive, we will see that you get a free gift for voting.

The popularity of the men involved is often based on how hard the fan club officers for that man work. Thus it is up to you, fan club workers, as to how high your men will rate. Lets all really get behind this and see how well you can do.

I still am surprised at how well the Assassins are doing. I know that many people like them, but did not know they would go so well so fast. And for them to hit both the popularity polls and the most hated at the same time; that really is the biggest shock. They have quite a few people, myself included, who think they are tremendous wrestlers and attractions. This makes the biggest difference.

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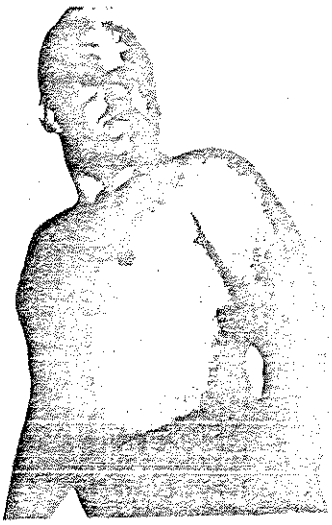
FAN CLUB AND PEN PAL LISTINGS

1. The Danny Hodge fan club, Opal Mae Ronspiez, prexie, would like to hear from his fan. The club address is 907 S. 10th. Kingfisher, Okal homa. 73750.
2. The Gorgeous George club, which is one of the most active, would also like to hear from his fans. The president is Chalotte Irvine and the address is 1943 W. Thoman. Springfield, Mo. 65803.
3. The Sputnik Monroe club, with Danny Goddard, prezie, is back in full swing and would like to hear from his fans. Danny can be contacted at 462 Gift Ave. N.E. (S.E., sorry) Atlanta, Ga. 30316
4. The George Becker and Johnny Weaver club is another which has really been going strong. The prexie, Pam Daniels, can be contacted at 544 Leonard Rd. Norfolk, Va. 23505.
5. Mister Les Crenshaw of 65 Avondale Rd. Palmers Green, London N. 13 England, would like to buy pre-war magazines. If you can help Les, drop him a line.
6. I would like to beg, borrow or steal a picture of Lou Albano and Tony Altemore. If you can help me, please let me know. Thanx.
7. Skandar Akabar, the wild young wrestler in the Ozarks would like to hear a song on the radio or phonograph that he does not know the name and author of. Thus far, he has been able to tell the song, the singer and the year it came out of every song he's heard.
8. Jerry Davidson, prexie of the Ivan Kalmikoff club, would like to hear from all of his fans. His address is 13577 Spruce Rd. Southgate, Mich. 48192.
9. In the August issue, we carried an item in which Smith Warner of 1115 Ross St. Lufkin, Texas 75901, had a collection of fotos he wanted to sell. All you have to do is to send a letter to him, and he will send you a free list of all he has available. Smith promised to write "Uncle Burt is a goodie" a million times if I included this item, and last month, the thot of getting that many " goodie" items got the best of me, and I forgot the address. Sorry everyone, but this is not the fisrt time, nor the last time, I will make a mistake in my life. Getting up in the morning is a mistake in my case half the time.
10. Rosemary Garrett of the Paul DeMarco club would like to hear from all of his fans. Rosie can be contacted at 229 Laurens Street. Laurens, Sout Carolina. Zip code 29360. This club is a goodie.
11. Joan Anderson of the Don Carson club would also like to hear from her honoray's fans. The club address is P.O. Box 5663 Pensacola, Flo. 32505.
12. The Freddie Blassie club is back in full swing as Blassie is once again at the top of the wrestling profession. The prexie, Jeff Walton, can be contacted for details at 1358 S. Sierra Bonita, Los Angeles, Calif. 90019.
13. I also need people interested in helping digging for old results. In coming months, we will be doing life records on many of the top men of the world today. If interested, drop me a line. Much grass.
14. I should have made the above item number 14 instead of 13. I should know better, as 13 is bad luck.



DANNY HODGE

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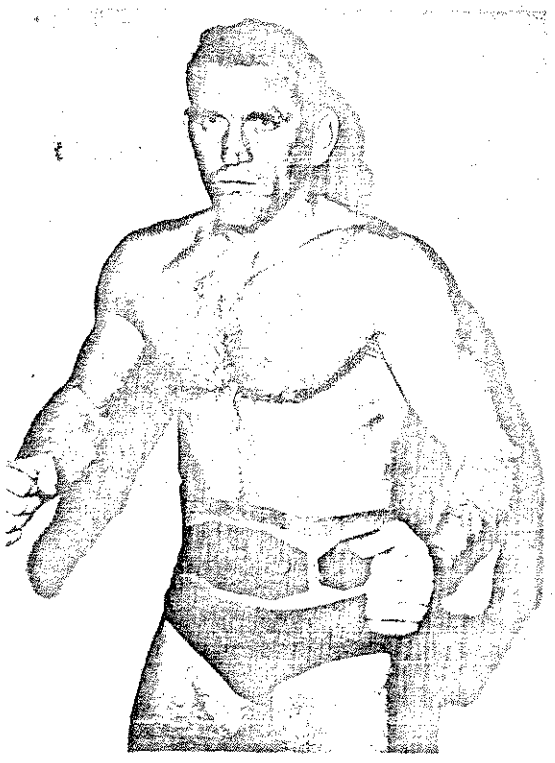
To those people with fan clubs, I need to know the activity of your clubs so that I can continue doing this page. Only four or five clubs have coninued keeping in touch with me since I left that magazine. OK?



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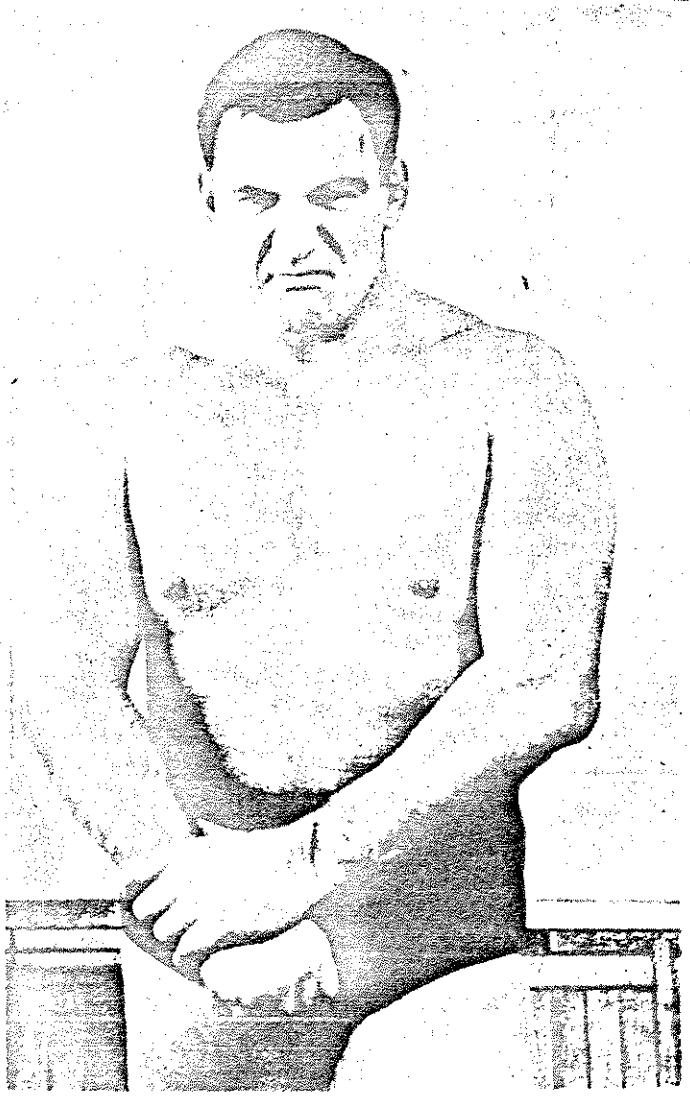
Karl Gotch is possibly the greatest wrestler of this day and age who was trained in the age-le age-less Greco-Roman style. His ability as a wrestler has made him a world-renowned person. Thus it is that his opinions on his fellow wrestlers is to be of great value when evaluating a man.

"Lets talk about personalities, Karl. Who would you say is the toughest and hardest to handle man you've ever faced?"

"I would have to say, in all fairness, Big Bill Miller. Bill has not only a wonderful background in amateur wrestling, but also football experience. He is a big man, really big, and his strength is amazing. But Bill has further talents, inasmuch as he can wrestle very scientifically as well as downright dirty. Add in his tremendous physical condition. his great weight, and above all his fantastic drive and urge to win. He mixes everything together, and he's the most dangerous opponent I've ever faced."

This Bill Miller, of whom Karl Gotch spoke, has often been compared to a combination of shake, bear and lion, with a little bit of skunk thrown in for good measure. He is one of the largest men in wrestling, standing 6'6" tall and tipping the scales at 325 pounds. Bill puts these advantages to good use, as his favourite hold is a simple choke hold - while holding the man in the air at arms length.

Big Bill (Fat Willy, if you would like) has been a part of the most long-standing feuds in the world of wrestling. He and Bobo Brazil have met at least 15 times TM and the fur really flies when they get together. The two foes settled their difference recently for one match as tag team partners; this took place on 10 Aug in Columbus and they soundly beat the team of the Student (George Steele) and Big Bad John in two straight falls. The hoped-for clash between Bill and Bobo did not occur, as the two pros concentrated on thier signed opponents.



Well known in every corner of the world, Bill has one of the most enviable records in wrestling. He has beaten virtually every top man in the business including Verne Gagne, Karl Gotch, Bruno Sammartino, Bobo Brazil and many others. With his "baby brother", Dan, Bill is touring the midwest and east coast at present and has shown his wares in Canada. A great wrestler and a greater person, Miller is one of the most complete men in his chosen field.

*****

Does it show that I like the big guy?

*****

QUIZ

1, Name the regular tag team partner of the following:
   a, Ken Lucas
   b, Dennis Hall
   c, Harley Race
   d, Antonio Pugliese
   e, Pat Patterson

2, Name the nationalities of the following men:
   a, Spiros Arion
   b, Domenic DeNucci
   c, Chris Tolos
   d, Miguel Perez
   e, Josef Zaranoff

3, Realiteves, relations: name the realative in wrestling of the following people:
   a, Bull Curry
   b, Jack Donovan
   c, Johnny Weaver
   d, Vic Faulkner
   e, Buddy Fuller

4, Name 8 ex-heavyweight boxing champions who have been active in wrestling as either referees or wrestlers.

There are 23 possible points in the above quiz. This is a hardie, so passing mark would be about 15. Above that, you are a wrestling genius. Ten and you are an average wrestling fan. Below that, you are as smart as I am; which is to say that you are stupid.

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Late news from New Zealand. Wrestling in the Land of the Long White Cloud has been picking up of late, as the giant Maori, John Da Silva, has been packing the fans into the arenas. The 240 pounder is the most popular man to hit there in many a moon. Other visitors there recently have included Pat O'Connor, a native of New Zealand; also Abe Jacobs, another native; also King Kong, the gigantic, 700 pound Singapore star. With Da Silva leading the popularity parade, the champion, Steve Rickard, has taken a back seat on that score. Still beating back all challenges, Steve looks like a good bet to retain his title through the current season, which ends some time in mid-October or so.

Other visitors have been Braka Cortez, the Brazilian star; Sheik Waydi Ayoub, from Lebanon; Alan Pinfold, the Australian star; Mo Sakata, better known to most mat-fans as either Tosh Togo or Oddjob; also Noel Young, Bob Banard, and Larry O'Dea all from Australia.

Some of these men may not be too well known, but the fans in New Zealand have not been getting such a wide variety of top flight wrestlers for several seasons. The major reason for the up-lift is, of course, the giant John Da Silva. Well known in Europe and in Canada, he has also appeared in Australia and Japan for a short period. Standing well over 6'4" tall, he is really packing them in down there.

*****

Answers to last months quiz (if I can remember them). 22 brother teams. Torres Bros, Tolos', Andersons, Vachons, Carsons, Grahams, Funks, Christys, 9Rougeaus, 10oh boy, 10McClartys, 11, Royal and Faulkner, 12, Millers, 13 Daltons, Monroes, 15, Lewins, 16, Scotts, 17, Garvins, 18, Von Erichs, Greenes, Sky Bros, 21, the ones from Lebanon, 22, my gosh, Vulkoffs, Finally.
Other sports; Carnera from boxing, Kiniski from football, Big Ku from soccer, Carpentier from gymnastics, Eagle from Lacrosse. Countrys: Markoff from Yugoslavia, Ceslaw from Russia, Atkins from Australia, St. Clair from England, O'Connor from New Zealand.

On the 15th of September, I left New York City to move here to Mankato, Minnesota. This move was caused by several things, but the main one was to be in an area where they had some of the greatest wrestling in the world. Part of that move was also caused by the fact that I have taken over as part time assistant promoter here and in other cities in Southern Minnesota.

I arrived here on Sunday, the 17th and saw my first AWA match on the 20th. Every wrestling fan has heard about the Fabulous Crusher, and let me tell you, everything you have heard is the truth. I have seldom seen or heard a man who is wilder and more thrilling than the beery, gravel-voiced Milwaukee star. He packs over 260 pound on a 6'1" frame and all of that seems to be hard muscle. He has short blond crew-cut that looks like it would be as rough as a brillo pad. And that is the way he wrestles: rough, tumble, a real devil-may-care type of action. A villian normally, he is a favourite here because every fan knows that the Crusher is just like them: a man faced with the fact of earning a living and enjoying life as he does. Down to Earth, simple, and real true-blue star in every way, shape and form. Him is beyond a doubt the most wonderful, fantastic guy I have seen in years and years and years.

As for Igor, I covered him earlier in this issue of MATMANIA but let me say one more time what a wonderful, wacky, wild guy he is !!!! In Mankato on the 27th, he actually climbed down out of the ring to kiss the guy who had been cheering the Polish strong man on the most. The poor guy blushed so much that even I saw the red face and I was over a hundred feet away. Ole Igor is utterly, completely, absolutely fantasits. Damn, but he is wonderful.

Doctor X is the craziest, wackiest, most snotty guy I have seen in years. Some of the villians can turn it off when they are away from the hustle and bustle of the wrestling ring, but this guy is no Doctor Jeckyle Mister Hyde; he is a lousy character at all times. A good wrestler, but nothing great, he was completely over-whelmed by young Al Kashey until he got a piece of metal plate and stuck it under his mask. Using his head as a battering ram, with that metal plate going first, he knocked out Al and won the match. There are too many wrestlers around here who can beat the Doctor and I doubt if he stays masked for any length of time.

Johnny "Powerlook" Powers is another guy around here who can really take care of himself in the ring. The top villian at present, his matches with the Crusher are among the wildest and roughest I have ever seen. They really go at it full blast, and you can see the hate and venom spill out of Johnny when he faces the Fabulous Crusher. I doubt if I have ever seen so much hate in one ring at one time.

I didn't get to see Chris Markoff too much, as he lost so quickly to the gallant star, Ramon Torres here in Mankato, but what I did see was good. A rough, tough man with no scruples, he carries his 6'3", 270 pounds as though he completely owned the world and dared anyone to use any of it for personal uses. Cocky, arrogant, and a real stinker, I like him.

I was also impressed with young Rock Rogowski. The guy is not too tall, but he is as wide as he is tall. A real, true-blue natural blond, he will really go places in wrestling as he has everything it takes to be one of the best in the world. Watch him: I predict big things for him.

Earlier in this issue, I mentioned how great it was seeing Ramon Torres again. The guy is still my favourite wrestler here and anywhere. He is an eager, energetic man with the qualities of stardom. He has been terrifically received here, as he should be. A great wrestler, a rough and tumble man when required, he has everything it takes to beat any man in the world.

Al Kashey and Rene Goulet are two of the best young stars in the world today. Both are highly skilled young men and are capable of giving them all a good run for their money. Al, the son of old-time great, Abe "King Kong" Kashey, is beginning to look like his famous father and to wrestle as well as his sire. Rene, the clean-cut, boy-next-door, is equally popular and will really go places in wrestling.

I have not yet seen Verne Gagne, so can give no impression of him yet. Next issue, hopefully, I will be able to do so.

And now a point that many people will undoubtedly appreciate. On the 23rd I appeared on TV here in Mankato for the first time in my life. It is a real kick in the head watching yourself on TV, and I think that, under the circumstances, I did pretty well for the first time around. I blushed a bit when I saw myself, but who wouldn't? I've even had a few people ask for my autograph at the matches on the 27th. But I'll still be humble, I promise.....Wheeee.

I will be on TV every week from now on here, as I do the local interviews for the wrestling in Southern Minnesota. It is a blast, a kick, a real ball in every way. And I'm shy; can you picture it?

We have had matches thus far in Mankato, New Ulm and Albert Lea, and, once we get started full blast, will be having matches in several other cities in and around Southern Minnesota. We are already beginning to set up matches in some of the cities and will have full details in later issues of MATMANIA. You know, being a promoter is fun, except that I am already against results.

And I'm stupid.

Like all other promoters. Except, of course, the vast majority of them. Only a few fit into the above concensus. Be nice, Uncle Burt, even if it kills you.

As everyone knows, it takes a bit of advertising to make things go in wrestling. You have to let the fans know about the matches and to do that, you have to advertise. The main man here, Norman Kietzer, feels that TV and an ad in the local newspaper is enough and we have had a bit of a to-do about it and will probably have more. He has already gotten the nick-name, from me, of Vince McMahon Jr. due to his relying on TV, for advertising.

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Can you picture the trouble I am going thru? Having to make the choice of telling the truth in these bulletins or following the dictates of the home office? Wally Karbo is a great promoter and he really deserves a lot of credit for bringing in some of the greatest wrestlers in the world. In the Crusher, Igor, Torres, Markoff, Doctor X and some of the others, he has, and we have, the greatest collection of nutty, wonderful wrestlers in the world today. Mister Karbo is to be congratulated in every way.

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Somewhere along the line here, I would like to give the local fans my complete assurance of continuing the great matches to which they have been accorded thus far. Norm and I are trying to bring in even more of the top stars of the wrestling world and to give the fans the best wrestling possible. I feel great, being a promoter and having my ulcer dictate the workings and worryings of an area. Tis a ball, but my aching back, have I done some hard work !!!!!.

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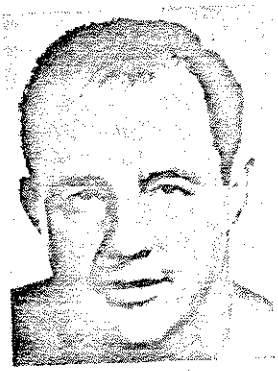


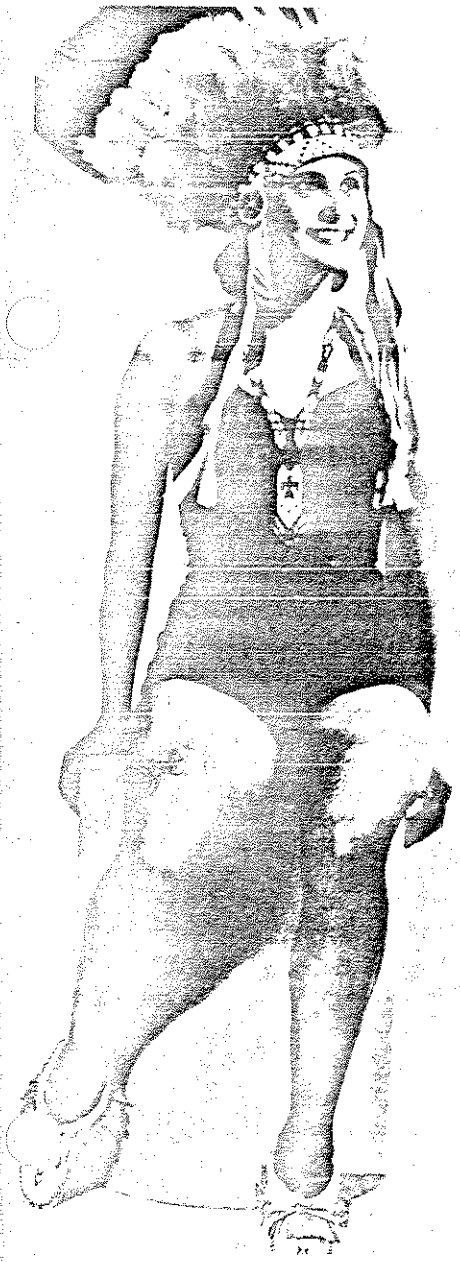
The king of the roost is of course, the Great Verne Gagne. Pictured on the left, he is a fantastic wrestler, and I am really looking forward to seeing him in live action. A light man as wrestlers go, he weighs around 225, the same weight he has carried for the past 10 years or so. A bit thin on top, he has been having a series of wild clashes with Pretty Boy Larry Heinning and Powers. Ranked only behind Kiniski as the best in the world, a title clash between the two would be the biggest and best match of this or any other year. The match, if properly done, would probably set attendance marks that would never be equaled in the history of wrestling.

WRESTLERS OF THE MONTH

In each issue of MATHANIA, we will honor those men and women who we feel to have best earned the honor and glory of being true wrestling champions. They will be in the three categories as in this issue.

The first each month is to the girl who best typifies the age-less arts and sciences of wrestling. The winner this month is the Indian fem-warrior, Princess Little Cloud. With wins over Bette Boucher, Toni Rose, and Verne Bottoms, she has moved into the number one spot as challenger for Moolah's world title.

The second each month is to the man who we again feel most deserves the moral support of the world's fans. This month, the winner is Fritz Von Erich. As noted earlier, he met and defeated Gene Kiniski via disqualification, only to have the decison reversed on another disqualification. He had the moral win, but lost in his quest for the title and the honor going with it. Easily Kiniski's top challenger, he is going to be matched against the champ in the next few weeks in St. Louis.



PRINCESS LITTLE CLOUD

The third award each month is to the tag team combo who deserve our special honor and support. This month, the winners are the gigantic team known to the world as the Kentuckians. Winner over such teams as Bogni and Lubich, the Anderson Brothers, Hawk and Hanson, and the team of Hamilton and Firpo, they have been moving up in our ratings of late. Now wrestling in the Ozark region, they will undoubtedly clean up the title mess in that area, facing the teams of Shikuna and Yokouchi and the Assassins. Watch for some wild action down that way soon.

Almost every wrestler deserves our support, but these four best typlifie the skill and ability of the true wrestler.

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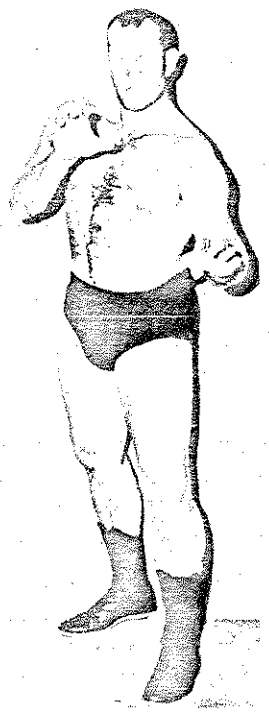
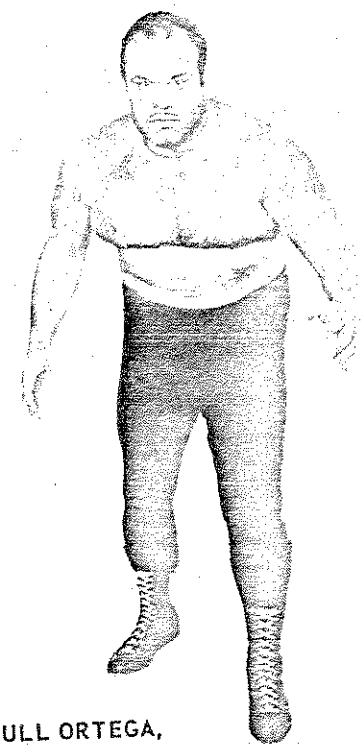


FRITZ VON ERICH

In each issue of MATMANIA, we give three awards to the men and women of wrestling. The first of these is to the promoter we feel is the best in the world of wrestling. This month, we are going to honor two men, as we feel that both are the best, and it is impossible to tell which of the two most deserves the honor. As noted many times in these bulletins, the wrestling of the South has been the best anywhere in the world. The promoters keep a continuall influx of new top talent coming in, and the fans keep the runstiles clicking because of this talent-richness. The men behind the scenes who are in charge of this talent search are our promoters of the month for this issue, Paul Jones of Atlanta and Pete Apostolon of Roanoke. Paul, the oldest active promoter, has set attendance records each and every week, as he seldom throws a match that is not a complete sell-out. Pete, our other winner, fills his Starland Arena every week to capacity, too. Both do this because of giving the fans the greatest in the world of wrestling. Our congratulations to two fine, wonderful men. Long may they reign as the tops.

The second award each month is to the wrestler who has covered the most distance during the previous month. A partial list of men who have done any serious traveling include Jess Ortera from Japan to the East Coast; Tony Altemore and Antonio Pucliese from Japan to sothern California; Billy White Wolf from Hawaii to Japan, and Tank Morgan just the reverse; Ray Burns from Japan to limbo; Red Osborne from the Northwest to the Carolinas; Jerry Graham to the Northwest from Atlanta and Jose Quintero to there from the AWA land; Mark Starr to Texas from the Indianapolis area; the Kentuckians from the Carolinas to the Ozarks area; Lorenzo Parente from the Detroit area to Atlanta; Don DeNucii from California to the East Coast; Hawk and Janson from the Carolinas to the Atlanta area; The Dupre Bros to the Birmingham/Memphis area from the Southwest; Phil Brummett to the Southwest from Florida; Johnny Valentine to Florida from the AWA land; Pedro Godoy to Texas from the Carolinas; The Shiek to Canada from Detroit; ditto Spiros Arion from the East Coast and the Destroyer from the mid-west; I think the winner would have to be the big guy from Mexico, El Toro Ortega, the mammoth, 350 pounder. He left Japan, hit Hawaii and California, and is now back in Fat Man Paradise. A top challenger to Sammartino's world title, The Bull will be a welcome addition to all those people who like a tiny bit of roughness in their matches. Ortega, a top man and hero in Japan, will really pack the fans in on the Eastern Seaboard.



BULL ORTEGA.

The third prize each month is to the fan club worker of the month. We have done this before, but there is one girl in wrestling who really knocks herself out to help her honorary and favourite. The gal in question is a lovable, wonderful, kooky, delightful, wacky person and I am honored to say that she is one of my closest friends in wrestling, Miss Charlotte Irvine of the Gorgeous George fan club. Char, youse is a goodie and you are driving me crazy. Luvs ya, tho.

******

A preview of the October issue of MATMANIA. We will be including the life history of Gene Kiniski through 1966, plus stories and pictures on him from the past. We will also be including a story on Timmy Geohegen that was written some ten years ago. We will also have stories and pictures on Goulet, Doctor X if he will give me a picture of his ugly puss, plus our normal collection of news, results, write-ups and basic information from around the world of wrestling. In other words, I don't know what all will be in that issue, outside of the Kiniski record. Is that okay, everyone?

This is very, very important, so please read carefully: Wrestlers, when you read MATMANIA Please Be Sure, Absolutely sure, that you are Completely Dressed. Thank you.

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For the first time in the brief history of MATMANIA, we have to include a page in which we give credit for the pictures we have snitched to include in our bulletins. The three main sources have been the excellent work done by Mister Lew Eskin of Wrestling Revue, the programs and other work done by Mister Gene Gordon of Charlotte, N.C. and the programs and picture service of Mister Boyd Pierce of Ft. Worth, Texas. Revue is, of course, the number one magazine in American wrestling and I heartily urge each and every fan to read each issue; they are great in every way. Mister Gordon, Gene if I may, does the programs of Charlotte and they can be purchased thru the mail for only 20 cents. His address is P.O. Box 2345. Charlotte N.C. zip code 28201. Boyd has by far the largest collection of pictures for sale in the world today, plus the programs of most of the cities in Texas. or complete list of his pictures, drop him a line at Box C, Burleson, Texas. 76028. These three fine gentelmen are the bestest in wrestling today.

As most of you know, there are people in the world who beleive in communism; there are even more who beleive insocialism, but the only "ism" I beleive in is plagiarism. With credit, though.

We have back issues of MATMANIA available. If you would be interested in these, send me your name and I will send you the full list available. My address here is P.O. Box 694 Mankato, Minnesota. 56002. These back issues are fifty cents each.

For those interested in old results, we have a club just for these results. The dues are 1.50 a year and the address is the same as above.

We also have printing facilites for other fan clubs, including work much as is this issue. Please drop me a line, if interested, and we will send you full details. This also goes for printing programs for you local wrestling matches.

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As mentioned in our last issue, the dues of MATMANIA will be going up, starting with the December issue this year. They will be 60 cents a month beginning with that issue, or 6.00 a year for 12 issues. Prior to that time, you can join or re-join for the old dues of five dollars a year. This will only be until December the 31st, after that, bingo....

****

We are going to inaugorate a new policy in our October issue in which we print letters from our members and other interested parties. If you would like to try to get one printed, please mention it in your letter, and KEEP IT CLEAN as this is a family magazine.

We also will be making arraingements to give the most popular wrestler for the full year a nice award in December. If you would like to see your man win this award, vote, vote, VOTE for him. Often, and get your friends and members to vote, too. The more the merrier, on this thing. We will count all the votes the come in, so keep them coing. Coming.

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To those members who received the letter about our move out here: did I say we would do something special this issue? Did we? Let me know what you think.

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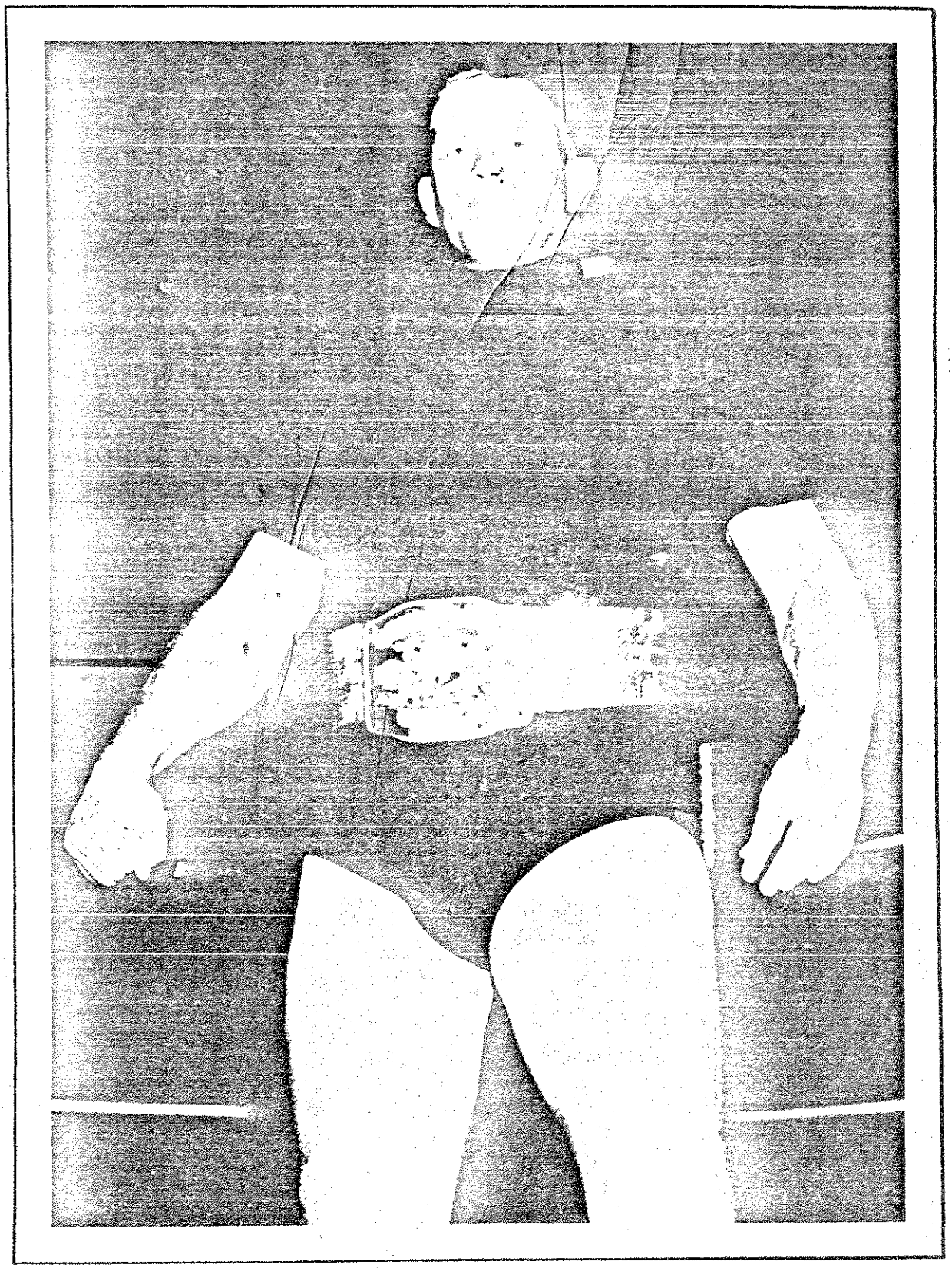
Big favour everyone. I need programs and tons of them. If you would like to send me one every week from your local arenas, I will send you some local ones in return. We need the pictures to continue doing these new style bulletins. More the merrier, tootsies, okay?



FRITZ VON ERICH